



Empowering People to Change the World

## **Worshipper Warrior V: Worshipper**

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## **WorshiperWarrior: Worshipper**

**So excited about the Christmas Eve service. Invite your friends and family and unchurches colleagues at work. Probably the most well attended service of the year all over the U.S.**

**Everyone stand now and hold up your Bible...**

***God can move mountains in my life  
I will build up my faith with God's Holy Word  
I will come alive in the power of the Holy Spirit  
With Jesus, nothing will be impossible***

**We are in a series on the life of David entitled WorshiperWarrior, from my book. I want to focus on David as worshipper.**

**Over the 30 years as a missionary and pastor, I have heard people say things like “I didn’t get anything out of worship!”**

- You are not supposed to get anything out of worship, you are supposed to give something in worship.
- It is not for you, it is for Him. It is not about you, it is about Him
- For example, I heard someone share the story of putting together a birthday party for their son and at the party the daughter became very upset—all the birthday stuff had her brother’s name on it; all the banners had her brother’s name on it—it all had HIS name on everything—all the presents had his name on it. And there was a BIG prize for him, and the patio banner had his name on it. She was very angry about this. She was very upset. The mother had to pull her daughter aside and say, “This is your brother’s birthday. It’s not your birthday. It’s all about him, not you.”
  - It is not about you, but about Him. Worship is for HIM.

- Turn to your neighbor and say, “Worship is about Him.” If you get that, you get the price of admission.
- I love the vibes, the feelings of it, but the center of it is: does it please you Lord? Is it blessing you Lord? The Bible says “you can draw near with your mouth but your heart is far from me.” That kind of worship does not please God.
- Most important thing: Worship is about God and worship is preparing us for what we will do in heaven. (Rev. 4-5 last week)
- For example, do you know what universal sign of surrender is? Watch those westerns, watch the police shows, upraised hands right? That is worship—I give up to You Lord, I yield to You Lord, I surrender to You Lord; You are my only resource! It is all about You Lord!
- We are going to heaven and we will worship God forever, no coffee breaks!
- We are here to worship! Begin to learn how to worship. There are so many passages in Scripture on worship.
- Getting ready for church is hard. “American Christian Tradition” is to begin each Sunday with a fight with your spouse! I know it is hard at times. “But we couldn’t find the shoes; the kids weren’t ready” and we come in here all frustrated.

**Worship is not just singing some songs, it is everything we do. It is how we pay our taxes, it is how we give our money, it is how we treat people at work, it is about how we handle relationships.**

**David was invited into Saul’s demonized court—a secular court, a secular job—not much different than Daniel in Nebuchadnezzar’s court—and David brought God there! Daniel brought God there.**

- David in 1 Samuel 16 (read about it if you’re a guest with us today) made the secular sacred.

- Secular and Sacred have nothing to do with a job or location. Any job can become sacred. Secular means “God absent.” Sacred means “God present.” When you bring the presence of God into a place where God is absent, you make the secular sacred!
- David turned a God absent Saul and his administration, into a sacred place with the coming of God’s presence.
- David was a worshipper! He got it. Worship is about God. David was a worshipper because David was about God and God was about David.
- God trusted David. It was not his perfect life—far from it, it was the direction of his heart. God looks at the heart, not the outward appearance. Outward appearance is religion; Heart attitude is worship.

**As far as we know, David never aspired to be a king, a soldier, or a leader, David wanted ONE THING.**

## Psalm 27

### Psalm 27:1-3

***<sup>1</sup> A Psalm of David. The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; Of whom shall I be afraid? <sup>2</sup> When the wicked came against me To eat up my flesh, My enemies and foes, They stumbled and fell. <sup>3</sup> Though an army may encamp against me, My heart shall not fear; Though war should rise against me, In this I will be confident.***

The context of the Psalm is being afraid, fearful, lots of problems, enemies and war.

- Not unlike some of our lives right? Job, enemies, adversaries, finances, bankruptcy, broken down vehicles, crushing problems, marriage issues.
- Satan’s strategy: Fear Narrative. Makes you want to camp out on fear.

- But look at what David does! This is what you and I have to do daily.

**David understood God’s Narrative, not a million things, but ONE THING.**

**Vs. 3 FOCUS your Heart!** David even has confidence.

**Psalm 27: 4**

***One thing I have desired of the Lord, That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord All the days of my life, To behold the beauty of the Lord, And to inquire in His temple.***

Instead of thinking about his problems and issues, David focuses his heart on ONE THING—Beholding the beauty of God! Beholding God! Gazing at God!

- The songwriter Tim Hughes writes, “The first thing God calls us to do is to watch Him—to gaze into His eyes and behold His greatness.”
- Last week, in Psalm 67, “cause His face to shine upon us.”

**Number 6: 24-26**

***“The Lord bless you and keep you;***

***<sup>25</sup> The Lord make His face shine upon you,***

***And be gracious to you;***

***<sup>26</sup> The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,***

***And give you peace.” ’***

- You behold His beauty by gazing upon Him—the presence of God over you as you look upon Him.
- For example, when I fell in love with Liz all I wanted to do was stare at her! As a missionary we were apart for 18 months and we did not have cell phone, face time or computers but we had photos and letters. I would often stare at her picture on my desk.
- Look down at verses 8-9 God invites us to focus on His face!

**Psalm 27: 8-9**

***<sup>8</sup> When You said, "Seek My face," My heart said to You, "Your face, Lord, I will seek." <sup>9</sup> Do not hide Your face from me; Do not***

***turn Your servant away in anger; You have been my help; Do not leave me nor forsake me, O God of my salvation.***

- **Worship is gazing upon Jesus in His presence—focused attention!**

**Psalm 27: 5**

***<sup>5</sup> For in the time of trouble He shall hide me in His pavilion; In the secret place of His tabernacle He shall hide me; He shall set me high upon a rock.***

David wanted to be hidden away with God. In the secret place with God.

- In times of trouble in public, retreat into the secret places with God in private.

**Psalm 27: 6**

***<sup>6</sup> And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me; Therefore I will offer sacrifices of joy in His tabernacle; I will sing, yes, I will sing praises to the Lord.***

**Worship is offering sacrifices of joy in song.**

- It is a sacrifice! It is not a feeling most of the time.
- It is a sacrifice of praise.
- It is praise!
- David said it best “You are enthroned in the praises of Israel.” (Ps 22:3)

**David lived in the presence, he praised the Lord and the presence came, and demons of despair were dispersed.**

- I am drawing a line in the sand for The Road @ Chapel Hills—we want the presence of God as our first priority!
- We have said from Day One that loving God with all of our heart, soul, mind and strength is our highest command and this is presence worship.

- Out of presence comes evangelism, healing, all ministry, deliverance.
- Last week and the week before combined, we have had 9 people give their hearts to the Lord and indicated being born again.
- Last week at The Road service, at The Well, at Flagship, at Life House, in NexGen, we are seeing young men and women get saved and healed.

### **You become like what you worship: Psalm 115:4-8 idols**

***<sup>4</sup> Their idols are silver and gold, The work of men's hands. <sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but they do not speak; Eyes they have, but they do not see; <sup>6</sup> They have ears, but they do not hear; Noses they have, but they do not smell; <sup>7</sup> They have hands, but they do not handle; Feet they have, but they do not walk; Nor do they mutter through their throat. <sup>8</sup> Those who make them are like them; So is everyone who trusts in them.***

***2 Corinthians 3:18 "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."***

- If you take two people, following the Lord, 10 second experience with the glory,
- But if you take a person who's known the Lord two years, but they take a ½ hour or an hour to experience the Lord in worship, who do you think is going to be most conformed to the image of Christ?
- We know the answer, but we have not often thought through the process.
- We are transformed to the amount of time we spend we are exposed to the glory and manifest presence of King Jesus. You become more and more like what you stare at.
- Every one of us sees, but very few of us see with the eyes of our heart!

- Every time we turn our affections to Christ; every time we seek the Lord with all our heart; every time we take our concerns to the Lord and behold Him, you are being changed.
- I remember in the 80's being introduced to Vineyard music and how much it radically changed my Quiet Times with the Lord. Two ways to approach worship: songs that sing about the Lord and songs that sing to the Lord.

**Let us gaze upon the Lord now! Let us focus our eyes, ears and hearts on Jesus and His coming**

**“Come all ye Faithful”**