

Message Study Guide

(Scriptures & quotes from this week's message are available on [thorncreek.church/live](http://thorncreek.church/live))

**Warming up**

1. How's your summer going so far? Any vacations planned?

**Digging Deeper & Application**

Take your time reading the scripture given. If possible look up the verses in different versions and pause at each verse and discuss it.

2. What does it mean to you to worship God?
  - Why do we worship?
  - How should we worship?
3. Billy Graham said, "The purpose of this Christian society called "the church" is first to glorify God by our worship. We do not go to church just to hear a sermon. We go to church to worship God." Agree or disagree, why?
4. Please read Nehemiah 8:1-6, and Nehemiah 9:1-3. What do you see?
5. Compare with this quote from Augustine, "You never go away from us, yet we have difficulty in returning to You. Come, Lord, stir us up and call us back. Kindle and seize us. Be our fire and our sweetness. Let us love. Let us run."
6. What's your favorite Psalm that talks about hoping in God?
7. Can you identify with John Ortberg's quote about worship? "I need to worship because without it I can forget that I have a big God beside me and live in fear. I need to worship because without it I can forget his calling and begin to live in a spirit of self-preoccupation. I need to worship because without it I lose a sense of wonder and gratitude and plod through life with blinders on. I need worship because my natural tendency is toward self-reliance and stubborn independence."
8. What does Nehemiah 8:6 mean to you?
  - Compare this with the story of the leper that came to Jesus in Mathew 8, and Luke 5. Please read those passages. What was the posture of the leper?
9. What happened after Solomon finished praying in 2 Chronicles 7:1-3? Compare with this quote, "Worship is the proper response of all moral, sentient beings to God, ascribing all honor and worth to their Creator-God precisely because he is worthy, delightfully so."
10. According to this quote from A.W. Tozer, are you worshipping God? "If you're not worshipping God on Monday, the way you did the day before, perhaps you're not worshipping Him at all."

11. Read Habakkuk 3:17-18. Do you worship God "even though?" Why or why not?

**Application**

Below are some of the points or quotes shared in the message. Discuss how they apply to your life.

- You have a God who sees you.
- You have a God who will never forsake you.
- “You never go away from us, yet we have difficulty in returning to You. Come, Lord, stir us up and call us back. Kindle and seize us. Be our fire and our sweetness. Let us love. Let us run.” - Augustine of Hippo
- !!! Some of you need to RUN back to God!!!!
- True praise involves a dying to your self.
- “Worship is an incredible privilege, not a religious duty.” - Unknown
- “Worship is the proper response of all moral, sentient beings to God, ascribing all honor and worth to their Creator-God precisely because he is worthy, delightfully so.” - D.A. Carson
- YOUR PRAISE...
  - Your praise to God tells God how grateful you are.
  - Your praise to God tells God how aware you are of your sins.
  - Your praise to God tells God how much you are aware of His grace over your life.
  - Your praise to God tells God how much you need Him.
  - Your praise to God tells God how much you love Him.