

KEY SCRIPTURE & SERMON POINTS:

Key Scriptures

"After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne...**Revelation 4:1-2 ESV**

"the twenty-four elders fall down and worship the one sitting on the throne (the one who lives forever and ever). And they lay their crowns before the throne and say, "You are worthy, O Lord our God, to receive glory and honor and power. For you created all things, and they exist because you created what you pleased."**Revelation 4:10-11 NLT**

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship."**Romans 12:1 ESV**

"No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money."**Matthew 6:24 NIV**

"Each of these living beings had six wings, and their wings were covered all over with eyes, inside and out. Day after day and night after night they keep on saying, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God, the Almighty—the one who always was, who is, and who is still to come."**Revelation 4:8 NLT**

"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."**Romans 12:2 ESV**

"Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you."**James 4:7 NIV**

"Choose this day whom you will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."**Joshua 24:15**

"I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth."**Psalms 34:1**

"Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name."**Hebrews 13:15**

"And take... the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."**Ephesians 6:17**

"But he answered, 'It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'**Matthew 4:4**

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."**Psalms 119:105**

"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."**Matthew 18:20**

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers."**Acts 2:42**

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another..."**Hebrews 10:24-25**

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

**Start talking.** (Pick one) Find a conversation starter for your group.

- How do you define worship in your own words, and what role does it play in your life?
- What's your favorite form of worship (singing, serving, praying, etc.), and why?

**Start thinking.** Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- Why is it significant that God is seated on the throne rather than pacing or worrying, as described in Revelation 4:2?
- How does the description of God's throne room in Revelation 4:3-5 convey His majesty and power? How does it compare to how we think of God in daily life?
- How does the imagery of the throne room in Revelation 4 shape our understanding of who God is?
- Revelation 4 reveals worship as both an act of allegiance and defiance. What is the significance of this dual role in the context of spiritual warfare?
- How does Revelation 4:8-9 (the living creatures declaring God's holiness) serve as an act of resistance to the forces of darkness?

**Start sharing.** Choose a question to create openness.

- Revelation 4 shows that worship is both an act of allegiance and defiance. How does this change the way you approach worship in your personal life?
- In Revelation 4, the elders and living creatures are continually worshipping. What are practical ways you can make worship more consistent in your daily life?
- What is one thing in your life that you've been holding onto too tightly (a "crown" you need to lay down before God)?
- How does seeing worship as a form of spiritual warfare help you in your walk with God?

**Start praying.** Be bold and pray with power.

*Lord, God, praise you in your glory and thank you for gifting us with worship. Worship is not something we must do, but a privileged thing we are allowed to do. Please guard our hearts that we never take worship for granted. Please, Lord, grow our worship of You. And please, use us to help those around us be led to worship You as well! We ask for all of this in the name of Jesus, Our Savior, amen.*

**Start doing.** Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Make a list of "ways to worship God." Do something on this list that is not your normal expression of worship. Ask a friend if you need help with your list. Consider sending a message to your GC about your experience.
- Invite a friend or family member to worship Jesus with you at church this coming Sunday!