

Becoming Worshipers As a Way of Life!

By Timothy Johns

"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him." John 4:23

"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen." Romans 11:36

"Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created." Revelations 4:11

"He said in a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water." Revelations 14:7

Worship is a lifestyle that brings glory to God. God is seeking worshippers! Worship is our highest purpose in life.

Step One: Recalibrate back to zero: Realize that God, nor anyone else, owes you anything. You don't deserve anything nor are you entitled to anything. Life and everything good in life is a **gift**. It is a result of God's mercy and grace. All good things (mercy & grace) come from God. (James 1:17) This step helps keep us grateful and unoffendable. Feeling ripped off is the root of bitterness, unforgiveness, offense, grumbling, complaining, judging. Unmet expectations is the source of all relational breakdown and unhappiness. Readjusting expectations down to nothing, opens the door for everything good to land on your heart as a **gift** which then results in gratitude. Let's burn our "you owe me" and "I am entitled" lists. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9

"For if, by the trespass of the one man, death reigned through that one man, how much more will those who receive God's abundant provision of grace and of the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ!" Romans 5:17

Step Two: Faith - Believing and **receiving** the mercy and grace of God. God delights in you, adores you now and always, even in your weakness and sin. So surrender fully and receive God's love. He is your Source of life and wisdom. Seeking first His kingdom opens the door to everything else. (Matthew 6:33) King Jesus is the sovereign creator and ruler. God is bombarding you with mercy and grace in mega doses every second. Every good thing comes from heaven. God constantly pours out "general or common grace" upon all creation all the time. Saving grace is available to everyone through Jesus Christ because of his sacrificial death on the cross for the entire Adamic race. God does not force this grace upon anyone. He values our voluntary cooperation (faith) which involves a.) repenting (turning from saving ourselves), b.) believing, c.) receiving. **"From Him"**

Step Three: By the grace of Christ's indwelling presence and power (Holy Spirit), we **surrender** and **obey**. Life in the kingdom is lived WITH and THROUGH the Person of the Holy Spirit – Jesus Christ. Obedience involves a.) right thinking, b.) right motives, c.) right attitudes, d.) right character, e.) right emotions, f.) right relationships, g.) right behaviors and actions. Living in the kingdom involves doing His will, His way, by His Spirit, for His glory. Yes, we cooperate with God, and at the same time we are profoundly aware of His Life flowing through us, animating and upgrading our minds, hearts, and lives. Acts 17:28 **"Through Him"**

Step Four: We minister to the Lord. While still under the influence of God's grace, we give Him praise, thanksgiving, gratitude, rejoicing. Praise is thanking God for what He has done. Worship is loving God for who He is. Giving "worth" to God is "worship". **"Back to Him"** "As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." Acts 13:2