

The Power of a Worshiping Church

Listen to this real time description of a powerful, worshiping community.

Acts 2:42-47 *And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.*

There is great **power in corporate worship**. Significant, heartfelt worship has powerful impact on a church family.

1. A **worshiping community** produces or bears powerful fruit which includes:

- a. A devotion to God's presence, voice, and activity. This manifests its reality in their:
 - i. Teaching
 - ii. Fellowship
 - iii. Communion
 - iv. Prayers

Verse 42 – *"they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and prayers"*

- b. A second fruit of the genuine worshiping congregation: it engenders a manifest awe in their corporate encounters with God.

Verse 43 -- *"awe came upon every soul..."*

- i. An awareness of the interdimensional connection of God with his people calls this church family into a different atmosphere.

- ii. Genuine worship sings us into a different dimension. The melodies of heaven are harmonizing on earth. Our hearts are warmed, our spirits rise to a different reality, and the atmosphere is changed.
- iii. As we sometimes sing...

"The atmosphere is changing now..."

*For the Spirit of the Lord is here
The evidence is all around
That the Spirit of the Lord is here...*

Overflow in this place

*Fill our hearts with Your love
Your love surrounds us
You're the reason we came
To encounter Your love*

A miracle can happen now

*For the Spirit of the Lord is here
The evidence is all around
That the Spirit of the Lord is here*

- iv. The atmosphere is changing and "Awe came upon every soul..."
- c. A third manifestation in a worshiping church family:

a faith-filled fellowship

Verse 43 "...and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles..."

v.44 "all who believed were together..."

- d. A **love-controlled congregation**

v.45-46 "selling possessions as any had need...attending the temple together"

- e. A **joy-empowered people**

v.46 "...glad and generous hearts"

Hebrews 12:2 (ESV) *looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who **for the joy that was set before him** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

A church without worship is a breathless body. It is dead. Let us remember: *"Deep calls unto deep."* I pray the devil would **fear when we pray** and **worry when we worship**.

Here are key reasons why worship is central to the Christian faith:

1. **Worship Honors God**

- God is worthy of worship simply because of who He is—holy, sovereign, loving, and just.
- **Psalm 96:9** – *"Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!"*

2. **It's a Command, Not an Option**

- Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Worship is the active expression of that love.

3. **Worship Transforms Us**

- True worship shifts our focus from self to God, realigning our desires, priorities, and identity. Worship moves us from self-fulfillment to self-transcendence.
- **Romans 12:1–2** – *"Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship... be transformed by the renewing of your mind."*

4. **It Draws Us Into God's Presence**

- Worship is how we enter communion with God, both individually and as a community.
- **Psalm 22:3** – *"God inhabits the praises of His people."*

5. Worship Shapes Our Perspective

- When we worship, we are reminded that God is bigger than our problems, and that life has eternal meaning.
- **Colossians 3:2** – *"Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things."*

6. It Unites the Church

- Worship brings believers together in unity, reinforcing shared faith and purpose.
- **Acts 2:42–47** shows the early church growing in strength and numbers through shared worship.

7. Worship is Eternal

- In Revelation, the scenes of heaven are filled with worship (Revelation 4–5). Worship isn't just for now—it's preparation for eternity.

8. True worship treasures God's presence

Psalms 27:8 (ESV) *You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek."*

9. True worship humbles the human heart

Isaiah 6:4–5 (ESV) *And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"*

10. True worship is sacrificial and fruitful

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV) *And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.*

11. True worship extends God's love

Mark 12:28–31 (ESV) *And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.³¹ The second is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these.*