

# life groups

NLC Weekly Sermon Study

Week of January 21, 2018  
Sermon: Let's Talk About Worship



NEW LIFE  
CHURCH

# Schedule

**30 MIN** Eat, Meet & Greet

**15 MIN** Ice Breaker Game: **Sit Down If.** Instructions: Get everyone to stand up, then read through the following list, The last person standing is the winner! Sit down if ...you have eaten chocolate today... you are wearing purple...you were born in September...you have blue eyes... you are the youngest child... you have broken a bone...you have gone two weeks without a shower...you can speak more than two languages.

**NOTE:** Please use the following study in whatever way flows most naturally for your group. If you lead a small group, you may choose to stay together and go straight through the study. If your group is larger—like a House Party or a City Group—you may want a leader to take the group through the main points, then save the questions for small group breakouts. How you use the study is always up to your discretion as a leader.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

**45–60 MIN** **Let's Talk About Worship**

**JOHN 4:23** “A time is coming and now has come when true worshippers will worship the Lord in spirit and in truth”

### 1. WORSHIP IS NOW

- **Similar to faith:**

**HEB 11:1** “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”

**HEB 13:8** “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.”

- **Worship is today, not just someday.**

### 2. WORSHIP IS SPIRIT

- **We are spirit and we worship in spirit, not as objects worshipping objects.**

› Our Lord is not a object. We don't even worship the cross, nor communion, not even a song. It's spiritual and it's for his Spirit.

**1 COR 6:19** “Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?”

- Remember—Emmanuel means “God *with* us.” God’s presence is no longer centered in the Temple of Jerusalem, not an object located somewhere, but his presence should be in the heart of every believer.
  - › But its our responsibility to carry it like the Temple did. The Temple went through great extremes to reverence the presence of God.
  - › One way to reverence God in everyday life is not joking around about His name.
  - › If you limit worship to where you are, the minute you leave that place of worship, you will leave your attitude of worship behind like a crumpled-up church bulletin.
- Seek first the kingdom of God and all things...
  - › How do you seek the kingdom first? The answer is in worship. Worship is the point of connection with God.
  - › If you don’t feel connected to Him, worship Him! Lean in.
- Worshippers worship in spirit and in truth
  - › “In spirit” means we don’t worship an object.
  - › “In truth” means He doesn’t want someone who doesn’t mean it.

### 3. Worship is truth

- This means knowing his doctrinal truth, but also being truthful with God, not being dishonest or fake.
  - › When you worship, tell Him the truth about where you’re at.
- The way you worship, whether here or in your car, dictates every part of your life—your relationships, your work life, your heart, your decisions and goals.

#### Q1. Questions:

- › When you seek after a spouse, are you searching for something else or adding to what you have already found? Worship helps to settle that.
- › Are you bringing a heart for the Lord into only good places, or bad too?
- › Do you ask the Lord about a big decision or just go with instinct?
- › Goals—Do you pick your goals based on what you want or do you find out what the Lord is thinking first?
- › Discouragement –do you hand over heaviness? What about rejection?
- The word worship wasn’t mentioned in the Bible until Abraham.
  - › But worship was with us right there in Garden—an everyday, every moment relationship: “Lord are you here?” “Lord, you know

- I love you.” “Lord, I care about your will for my life.”
- › After the fall, the Lord says, “Where are you?” Like, “I miss you!”
  - › The problem since the fall of man is we are trying to get out of worship—like Adam and Eve—instead of into worship.
  - › Worship is remembrance, returning and reconnecting with the Lord.

## How Do We Express Worship to God?

### THE SEVEN HEBREW WORDS FOR PRAISE

- **HALAL – HALLELUIAH...to boast, to rave, celebrate, to be excited and to enjoy. To be clamorously foolish**  
**PSALM 22:26** “they who seek the LORD will praise (halal) him.”
- **YADAH – to acknowledge him with extended hands, open hands...reaching up and/or out to God**
  - › The Hebrew word YADAH comes from two root words. YAD which means the open hand, direction, power. And AH which has reference to Jehovah. Together they are rendered “Hands to God.”

### 2 CHRONICLES 20:19-21

- › Jehoshaphat and the Levites went out praising God while lifting their hands with all of their might...the enemy self-destructed
- PSALM 138:1**, “I will praise (yadah) you, O LORD, with all my heart.”
- › Extended hands, like reaching up to God.
- **BARAUCH (barak) – to bless, to give thanks while kneeling or bowing – this describes submission with expectation**
  - › “to kneel or bow as an act of adoration,” as an expression of our fervent and devoted love for the Father.
  - PSALM 103:1** “Praise (barak) the LORD, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.”
  - › Other countries bow...no shaking of hands
- **ZAMAR – making music to God while touching strings on an instrument. Accompanied by a voice**  
**PSALM 92:1** “It is good to praise (zamar) the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High.”
- **SHABACH – Not shambach...to address in a loud clap.**

**PSALM 17:1** “Oh clap your hands, all you peoples! Shout to God with the voice of triumph!”

› A strong clap

**PSALM 63:3-4** “Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise (shabach-clap) you as long as I live”

- TEHILLAH – exuberant singing and shouting

**PSALM 34:1** “I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.” – Again, not tequila will be on their lips

- TOWDAH – The word comes from Yadah and means to extend the hands, to declare openly, freely, unreservedly, to admit as real or true. Confession.

› This means to thank God for things that you have not yet received; to say, “I’m desperate for you.”

**PSALM 50:23** “He who offers praise (towdah) glorifies me

**Q2.** Is there anything in your life that is holding you back from worshipping the Lord freely?

**Q3.** Is there any fear attached to your worship?

**Q4.** How is your private worship life—the worship you do when no one is around?

**TAKE PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAY OVER NEEDS**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**