

When Worship Is Real

When you hear the word "Worship" what comes to mind? Sunday services at church? Music? Prayer or preaching? Singing or bands? Drums, guitars, and keyboards? Choirs, hymns, organs or cantatas? When we hear that word our minds often focus on the various methods of worship instead of the object of our worship, God. How important is worship to you? How important is worship to God?

Psalm 117:1 perhaps captures God's heart for worship; "Praise the Lord, all nations; Laud Him, all peoples!" God delights in His people worshiping Him because God delights in being God who is worthy of all our worship. As pastor and author, John Piper has said, "Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn't. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man." Not only is worship God's chief pleasure, it is the fuel for missions and for all of ministry. Worship does not simply delight the heart of God, it fuels our hearts as we live for God, serve our God and delight ourselves in Him.

"When Worship Is Real" is a new series on worship that we begin this Sunday. We want to define worship, describe how to worship, talk

about the difference between personal worship and corporate worship and even share the unique ways in which the Laurelwood family can worship together.

Please make a point to join us for this series and invite your friends and others to come as we describe as well as practice our worship of God together.

~ Pastor Mike







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