



“Spirit-led worship” -

Study questions

October 21st '18

Continuing our theme for the year about “keeping in step with the Spirit”, we’re taking 5 Sunday mornings to explore how the Holy Spirit wants to led & empower our life together as a church & our shared mission.

We’re basing this in letters written by leaders of the early church, and looking at how we can relate these principles into our culture.

1. What is “worship”? Look up Romans 12:1,2 & then read the following quotes:

“Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by His holiness; the nourishment of mind with His truth; the purifying of imagination by His beauty; the opening of the heart to His love; the surrender of will to His purpose - and all of this gathered up in adoration...”

William Temple. Archbishop of Canterbury 1942-44

“Worship has been misunderstood as something that arises from a feeling which “comes upon you”, but its vital that we understand that it is rooted in a conscious act of the will, to serve and obey our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Graham Kendrick Worship leader & worship song writer

Think about what worship is, and what it isn’t.

“Sunday worship: Monday life”. Can you think of an example of how this realisation (that all of life can be offered as worship) has transformed something you’ve been doing?

2. How is the Holy Spirit involved in our worship?

For example: 2 Chronicles 5:12-14; John 14:26; John 15:26; John 16:14; Ephesians 5:18-20. How have you personally experienced the Holy Spirit leading you in worship?

3. Think about how our culture finds substitutes for us to worship. What examples can you think of? What does this show about human life?

4. Read Acts 2:42-47. In this series we’re unpacking 5 aspects of church life – fellowship, worship, evangelism, discipleship & service. Find each of these in this passage. What is helpful, or unhelpful, about dividing these aspects up?

5. We talked about Spirit-led worship being focussed (on *God & His word* – not nothingness, and on *God* – not us), expectant, and transformative. Spend time praying for those involved in the worship ministry in the church, and for us all as worshippers of God, that our worship would glorify God & be pleasing to Him.

Summary of Pete Lowman’s “A Long Way East of Eden”

<https://www.bethinking.org/god/a-long-way-east-of-eden>