



His Worship

Focus Worship is more than simply exalting God. Worship is *love expressed*. God commands us to love Him and gives us the ability to do so.

Fun What is the most memorable gift you have given at Christmas? What makes it memorable to you? Share with the group.

Review Key Scriptures: Deuteronomy 11:1, 13

1. Worship is love.

Matthew 22:35–38; Deuteronomy 30:6

Love is a choice. God commands us to love Him yet provides us the ability to love and serve Him when we receive His gift of salvation. The greatest thing we can do is love God.

2. Worship is expressed.

Genesis 4:25–26

God created us to communicate with Him. Communication is necessary to grow any relationship. Love must be expressed. When you learn to express your love for God, you learn to live in His presence.

Group Dynamics Idea How can your group express love to others this Christmas season? Come together to provide a meal to someone, sing carols in your neighborhood or at a nursing home, or collect gift cards for a family in need. Follow up with your group to discuss the experience.

Discuss

1. Think of a person who loves you. How do you know they love you? Think of a person you love. How does that person know you love them?

2. We all communicate in different ways. Name some ways a person can express or communicate their love to God?
3. The greatest thing we can do is love God. When we love God, we will serve Him willingly. What are ways you respond to God's love in service to Him?
4. How can our love for God be hindered? Read Ephesians 6:16. What are examples of Satan's fiery darts that would make our heart discouraged, bitter, or angry? How can we guard against these attacks on our heart?
5. Love grows by reaching out toward a person with words and actions. Consider the following questions without answering out loud. What are some ways you can worship the Lord in a new way this week? Spend some time in private worship and respond to the Lord's love. Does that mean raising a hand? Thanking Him out loud? Listening to worship music in your car and praying along with the words? Singing? Take a moment to consider how you can express your love to Him this week. *Close your group discussion time with a worship song. Suggestion: The Stand by Hillsong.*

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- God created us to communicate with Him.
- Worship is expressing your love to God.
- God gives us the ability to love Him and commands us to do so.
- Each person may express love in a different way.

Prayer Lord, we love You. Help us to express our love to You not only in response to Your outrageous love for us but also because You are good, holy, and sovereign. You are the Great I Am. Draw us nearer to You this week as we worship. For You are worthy of our praise, love, and adoration. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Many people attending groups are alone over the holidays. Seek out those who are alone and make connections for them within your group, consider visiting them, or invite them to your house for dinner or dessert over the holidays.