



Let's Come In

Focus “Coming in” is worship. Worship prepares our hearts for battle. We cannot “go out” before we “come in” or else we will “go out” alone.

Open If you could ask God for anything, what would you ask for?

Read When given the opportunity to ask for anything he wanted, Solomon asked the Lord for wisdom. Why? In 1 Kings 3, Solomon tells the Lord there is something that his father, David, knew how to do that he doesn't—how to “go out” and “come in.” In the Bible, “going out” and “coming in” are military terms that mean going to war (proclaiming the name of the one true God) and worshipping (coming in to the Temple to sacrifice and be renewed).

We need to know how to “go out” (witness) and “come in” (worship). A very real heavenly war continues to be fought for our hearts and the hearts of those around us. If we do not come into His presence first, we have nothing to “go out” with.

- Talk**
1. Worship brings God's presence, the fear of God and His wisdom into our lives. Think of the times when you have set aside distractions and really set your focus upon the Lord to worship Him—whether through music, prayer or meditation. What has happened in your heart as you have worshipped God?
 2. We are engaged in a battle every day. Why does the Enemy work so hard to keep us from worshipping God? What strategies does he use to keep us from worshipping?

3. In the Old Testament, offenses that were punishable by death included “carrying a burden on the Sabbath.” Why is God so adamant that we are to observe the Sabbath (worship God by stopping work to set our focus on Him one day a week)? What does observing the Sabbath do in our lives?
4. Spending time worshipping God brings a greater fear (holy respect) of God into our hearts. Why does our worship bring the fear of God into *others’* hearts as well? (See 1 Samuel 18:12–13.) What does this have to do with “going out” (witnessing)?

Live

1. Do you understand the purpose for worship differently now than you once did? In what way?
2. In our culture, keeping the Sabbath is a challenge, yet the commandment to do so remains. What can you do to help keep the Sabbath at your house? What changes would you need to make?
3. What change will you make this week to work towards setting aside time to worship the Lord?

Pray

Thank God for all that He provides to us when we worship Him—strength for the battle, wisdom for life and a greater understanding of Who He is. Ask Him to show you how to “come in” more regularly so you will “go out” in His strength. Talk to Him about the change you will make this week and ask for Him to empower you to fulfill it. Pray for any other needs represented in the group.