

The Value of Worship

Have you ever asked the question, "Is worship valuable?" If you have not, ask yourself, "Is worship valuable to me?" Regarding worship, Jesus said, "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23-24). The word "worship" is used 64 times in the Old Testament and 44 times in the New Testament (King James Version). You can see after studying the word "worship" that it is used when applied to God always in a positive, uplifting, and edifying light.

How do we value worship? It is interesting to me that to a degree we have made worship cheap. We have made it common. We have made it a place where we are not focused upon God. Answer these questions in your mind: Do we prepare for worship? Are we distracted during worship? Do we make worship a priority? Are we engaged in technology/talking during worship? As you answer these questions please consider the importance of worship.

- **Worship is preparation for Heaven** (Matthew 6:10, Matthew 26:39).
- **Worship is a place of security** (Romans 8:28, Hebrews 10:35-36).
- **Worship is joyful obedience** (Hebrews 10:25, John 14:15-23).
- **Worship is a place to belong** (2 Corinthians 6:17-18, 1 John 4:23-24).
- **Worship is a place where Jesus expects Christians be filled with the characteristics of truthfulness** (John 4:23).

Worship is a privilege that we have been blessed with by the planning and foreknowledge of God. Let us submit to God's will (Acts 10:33) and become a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2). Let us approach worship with reverence, humility, and joy as we obey God together. This gives each of us an opportunity to think of our lives and how we can be more prepared for worship and find ways to involve others in our worship.

- Jonathan Burns, Findlay church of Christ, Sparta, TN -
(Bulletin Digest)

The way to preserve the peace of the church is to preserve its purity.
- Matthew Henry -

News & Notes

CONGRATULATIONS: To Noah & MaClay (Moore) Toomey who were married yesterday. Best wishes to them for a long and happy life together.

LADIES DAY: Next Saturday, Oct. 7th., Newcomerstown, OH. Registration: 9:30-10:00 a.m. Program: 10:00 a.m., "Diamonds In The Rough", Speaker: Latisha Brown.

PANTRY: Peanut butter & jelly.

SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home: David & Becky McKitrick, Bob & Mary Helen Riley, Anita Hopwood, Linda Parkes, Melissa Rosohac, Peggy Linger, Nancy Cox, Blondenia Orr, Barbara DeLong, David Strum, Cheryl Renfro Walker, Lori Rowand (John Sprout's niece). **Fox - Chester:** Mary Johnson (Lois Hissom's sister). **In Ohio:** Herman McHan, 7401 Elmwood Drive, Lisbon, OH 44432.

GOSPEL MEETINGS		
Newcomerstown	----- Oct. 8-12 -----	Rico Brown
Weirton Heights	----- Oct. 15-20 -----	Roger Rush
Lake Milton	----- Oct. 27-29 -----	Aaron Burch

Ask for the Old Paths

Christianity is not some newfangled way gotten up in modern times by men more zealous than well-informed. The whole of Christianity is in the New Testament. Anything in religion which is not as old as the New Testament is no part of Christianity. The "Old Paths" for us are the ways traveled by the apostles and early Christians who were guided into all truth by the Holy Spirit (Jeremiah 6:16; John 16:13). The New Testament gives us a history of the church of Christ for nearly three-quarters of a century. You should choose that church today, and make your life as a member of it conform to the New Testament doctrine.
—Gus Nichols (*House to House Heart to Heart*)

The Knots Prayer

Dear God:

- Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart, and my life;
 - Remove the have nots, the can nots, and the do nots that I have in my mind.
 - Erase the will nots, may nots, and might nots that may find a home in my heart.
 - Release me from the could nots, would nots, and should nots that obstruct my life.
 - And most of all, Dear God, I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart, and my life all of the am nots that I have allowed to hold me back.
- In Jesus' name, Amen - Author Known but to God

"I can do all things through Christ"
PHILIPPIANS 4:13