

2021 Community Groups

WEEKLY GUIDE

June 27

Pastor Brian's message was on Worship. He so rightly pointed us to something John Piper said, "Worship is a way of gladly reflecting back to God the radiance of His worth. This cannot be done by mere acts of duty. It can only be done when spontaneous affections arise in the heart." In Psalms 96, the Psalmist talks about a New Song; a song of intention, a prayer for encounter with the Living God, a longing to know and experience God more richly. Maybe for you, with all that life seems to be throwing at you today, it is a song of lament with a desperate cry to stay anchored in the deep hope that can only be found in Jesus.

Community Prayer:

Eternal Father, as we gather in your name today may we encounter you in a way that we never have before. May you put a new song in our hearts; a new passion to serve you no matter what life changes we encounter, help us to understand fully that you are always a very present help in our time of trouble, and that you will never leave us or forsake us. Bless this time we spend in your Word this day; in Jesus' Name, Amen.

Opening Questions

1. What would be some of the lyrics of your New Song describing what God has done for you?

EXPLORATION

Read the passages below...what can you learn about what it means to follow Jesus from these passages? (Have someone read from their bible)

Psalms 96: 1-3

2. What would be the Title of your New Song to God?
3. Why is it important that we glorify God through our Worship and Praise?
4. How do you thank God for your Salvation on a daily basis?
5. How do you share your message of Hope to your neighbors?
 - a. Are you "over the top" and straight to the point or subtle in the way you express God's love in you?

Psalms 96: 4-5

6. Why is God Great and greatly to be praised in your life?
7. What kind of idols can take the place of God in your life today? How do you avoid this from happening?

Psalms 96: 6-7



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8. Describe the types of Strength and Beauty God has shown you in this season?

Psalms 96: 8-9

9. What qualities come to mind when you hear His Name (God, Jesus, Holy Spirit)?
10. What type of offering is pleasing to the Lord that is non-monetary? Why?

Psalms 96: 10

11. How does the Lord reign in your life? And...how would others describe it?
12. How would you share with a neighbor that God has established the earth, and that He will judge the people with equity? (Use your Story)

Psalms 96: 11-12

13. What resonates with you regarding the glad heavens, the sea roaring, the field being happy, and the trees of the forest singing for joy...and why?

Psalms 96: 13

14. Why is it important for us to let others know that God is coming to judge the earth, but doing it with gentleness and respect?
15. Have you been praying for the people on your B.L.E.S.S. list? What letter are you on currently with some of them?

THE TAKEAWAY

Romans 12: 1-2.. "Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

- Worship is always about what we are bringing, giving, and offering. (Our voice, our service, our testimony, and the use of our talents and gifts)
- Our whole lives are intended to be that offering of worship back to God.



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- **A LIVING SACRIFICE...** meaning it's not marked by time, it's not about our Gathering on Sunday – it's our every day, every moment.
- The simple, mundane things, the awareness of God's love, the profound moments of seeing something beautiful on the earth then turning that back around into praise to the Creator of it all.
- "Show me where you spend your time, money and energy and I'll tell you what you worship." – John Wimber
 - Are you taking time to KNOW God? To walk with Him all throughout the day? To stop waiting on others to lead you to Him and really take personal initiative with your 'life of worship' before God.
 - To LIVE OUT Romans 12: 1-2 – it's a daily event of beginning to notice God in everything.
- **WORSHIP STARTS WITH SEEING GOD**
 - "Worship is a way of gladly reflecting back to God the radiance of His worth. This cannot be done by mere acts of duty. It can only be done when spontaneous affections arise in the heart." – John Piper

PRAYER REQUESTS



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