

**SESSION  
THREE**

**The Requirements For A True Worshiper**

**Psalm 24:3 – 6**



**ILLUSTRATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make no mistake. God is not in NEED of our worship and He is not begging us to praise Him. God is totally complete in Himself and needs nothing from us – not even worship.**

**In fact, there are certain things REQUIRED of us so that we can worship Him. If we don't meet His requirements, we are not His worshipers.**

**What does true worship require?**

**1. The first requirement is a \_\_\_\_\_ with God through Jesus.**

- A person without a right relationship with God simply cannot worship God. In other words, a non-Christian does not have the ability to worship God. Why not? Because a person without Christ is \_\_\_\_\_! (As in, not living; room temperature; no pulse – dead.)



**ILLUSTRATION:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**EPHESIANS 2:1-5** "As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins,<sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.<sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our sinful nature and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature objects of wrath.<sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy,<sup>5</sup> made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions – it is by grace you have been saved."

- Saving faith is required if we are to be pleasing to God.

**HEBREWS 11:6** "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."

- Those who do not believe \_\_\_\_\_ already.

**JOHN 3:16-21** "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.<sup>17</sup> For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.<sup>18</sup> Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.<sup>19</sup> This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.<sup>20</sup> Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that his deeds will be exposed.<sup>21</sup> But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what he has done has been done through God."

- God is so serious about His glory that He sent Jesus as **THE** way for us to have a right relationship with Him.

**JOHN 14:6** *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’”*

- The Bible shows us how we can have a relationship with God.

**ROMANS 3:23** *“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.”*

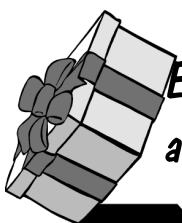
**ROMANS 6:23** *“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

**ROMANS 5:8** *“But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”*

**ROMANS 10:9-10** *“That if you confess with your mouth, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.”*

- We should understand that even our ability to believe what God has done for us through His Son is a \_\_\_\_\_. It's not something we did ourselves.

**PHILIPPIANS 1:29** *“For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him.”*



**EPHESIANS 2:8-9** *“For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast.”*

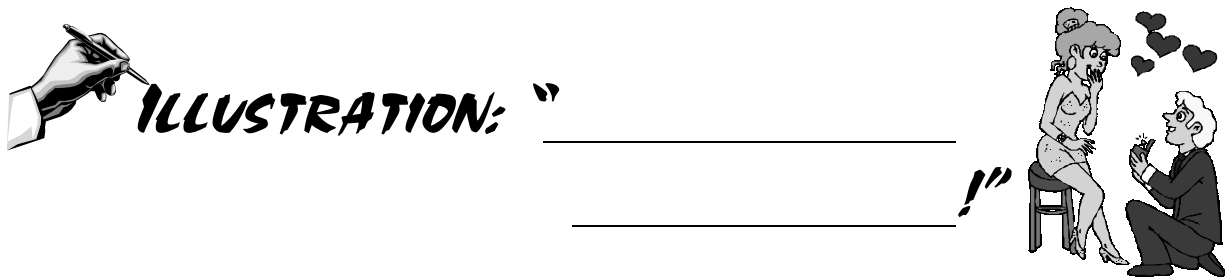
- God has saved us for His glory.

**1 PETER 2:9** *"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light."*

**2. The second requirement is \_\_\_\_\_.**

**PSALM 24:3-6** *"Who may ascend the hill of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? <sup>4</sup>He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. <sup>5</sup>He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication from God his Savior. <sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek your face, O God of Jacob."*

- Idolatry makes holiness impossible.



**ISAIAH 1:11-20** *"The multitude of your sacrifices – what are they to me?' says the LORD. 'I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. <sup>12</sup>When you come to appear before me, who has asked*

*this of you, this trampling of my courts? <sup>13</sup> Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations – I cannot bear your evil assemblies. <sup>14</sup> Your New Moon festivals and your appointed feasts my soul hates. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. <sup>15</sup> When you spread out your hands in prayer, I will hide my eyes from you; even if you offer many prayers, I will not listen. Your hands are full of blood; <sup>16</sup> wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight! Stop doing wrong, <sup>17</sup> learn to do right! Seek justice, encourage the oppressed. Defend the cause of the fatherless, plead the case of the widow. <sup>18</sup> Come now, let us reason together,’ says the LORD. ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. <sup>19</sup> If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the best from the land; <sup>20</sup> but if you resist and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword.’ For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”*

Even if we're doing all the outward things of worship, they don't mean anything if our \_\_\_\_\_ don't match up!

A godly lifestyle backs up what we say in our worship.

- Being a \_\_\_\_\_ makes holiness impossible.

*1 JOHN 2:15-17 “Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For everything in the world – the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does – comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup> The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”*



**ROMANS 12:1-2** *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will."*

- Our first act of worship is to lay our lives completely before God – **we** are the sacrifice that is being offered to God.

### 3. The third requirement is a right \_\_\_\_\_.

- Worship is serious business and many are far too casual about the worship of a holy God.



#### **ILLUSTRATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

- People have **died** because they did not take the holiness of God seriously enough.

Think about these examples:



#### 1. Nadab & Abihu



**EXODUS 24:9-11** *"Moses and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and the seventy elders of Israel went up <sup>10</sup>and saw the God of Israel. Under his feet was something like a pavement made of sapphire, clear as the sky itself. <sup>11</sup>But*

*God did not raise his hand against these leaders of the Israelites; they saw God, and they ate and drank."*

- Nadab and Abihu (Aaron's sons) had seen God!

*LEVITICUS 10:1-3 "Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu took their censers, put fire in them and added incense; and they offered unauthorized fire before the LORD, contrary to his command. <sup>2</sup>So fire came out from the presence of the LORD and consumed them, and they died before the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Moses then said to Aaron, 'This is what the LORD spoke of when he said: "Among those who approach me I will show myself holy; in the sight of all the people I will be honored.'"*

- Even though they had seen God, obeying Him exactly must not have been important to them.
- They died immediately because they did not approach the worship of God with an attitude of awe and reverence.



**ILLUSTRATION:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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## 2. Uzzah

*1 CHRONICLES 13:7-10 "They moved the ark of God from Abinadab's house on a new cart, with Uzzah and Ahio guiding it. <sup>8</sup>David and all the Israelites were celebrating with all their might before God, with songs and with harps, lyres, tambourines, cymbals and trumpets. <sup>9</sup>When they came to the*

*threshing floor of Kidon, Uzzah reached out his hand to steady the ark, because the oxen stumbled. <sup>10</sup> The LORD'S anger burned against Uzzah, and he struck him down because he had put his hand on the ark. So he died there before God."*

- The Ark of the Covenant was a holy thing because it represented God's presence among His people.
- Uzzah did not take the holiness of God or the significance of the Ark seriously enough and it cost him his very life.
- Our approach to God and His worship must never be casual. Even though we can approach the throne of God with boldness and confidence because of Jesus, we must do so with fear and reverence.



**ILLUSTRATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

*HEBREWS 12:28-29 "Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, <sup>29</sup> for our 'God is a consuming fire.'"*





# Make it real!

What things in your life hold you back from being the worshiper that God desires?

How can you demonstrate a true fear and reverence of a holy God in worship?

What stands out to you the most about God's character and about worship from what we have talked about in the first three sessions?