

This discussion guide is designed for Saylorville Church Community Groups as they live and learn together each week. The sermons and guides can be found at www.saylorvillechurch.com/sermons.

CONNECT WITH YOUR GROUP (10-15 MINUTES)

- How would you define “worship”?
- Have you ever been in a church service where the worship looked a little different than it usually does at Saylorville on Sunday mornings? Describe that service and how you felt being there.

APPLY THE BIBLE (45-60 MINUTES)

- **Remember** what you talked about last time. Is there anything you need to **follow up** on this week?
- **Review** your Sermon Notes together. What is **one thing** that sticks out to you about what you learned?
- **Read** this week’s passage together. In his message, **Pastor Pat reminded us to be true worshipers and warned us about reasons that worship stops.**

Context:

- In 2 Samuel 6:1-5, we are introduced to the Ark of the Covenant, which was a visual representation of the presence of God. What are some other visuals in Scripture or in our current context that remind people of the presence of God?
- While the Ark was being carried on an ox-cart, Uzzah touched it to prevent it from falling, and God put him to death on the spot. What attributes of God are on display during this event? Why do you think this event is included in the narrative of Scripture?

Worship Stops...:

1. **When I’m harboring sin (Psalm 66:18, Isaiah 59:1)**
 - Have you ever experienced a strained relationship with the Lord because of unconfessed sin in your life? What did you do about it?
2. **When I remember an offense I’ve not attempted to reconcile (Matthew 5:23, Romans 12:18)**
 - Be honest - is there anybody in your life (spouse, family member, friend, coworker, etc.) that you need to try to reconcile with this week? How will you start that conversation?
3. **When my expressions are at the expense of Truth (Exodus 25:12-15 - Ark Instructions)**
 - Do you think God blesses or accepts worship that isn’t based on truth? Why or why not?

True Worship...:

1. **Requires a true understanding of the Gospel (John 4:24)**
 - Compare John 4:24 with John 14:6 and Acts 4:12. How would you describe the truth in these passages?
2. **Requires coming to God, God’s way (Psalm 145:18)**
 - Pastor listed several instances of God showing how seriously He takes sin. As a group, brainstorm the times in Scripture where this is evident. What does that mean to you personally?
3. **Requires avoiding the familiarity that leads to contempt**
 - Are there areas in your Christianity that you have become too familiar and thus flippant?

Receive and Respond: What will I do because of what I just heard?

PRAY TOGETHER (5-15 MINUTES)

- This Christmas season, pray that your worship would be genuine and personal.

