

This week we deviated from our ongoing study through 1 Thessalonians. It was a great time of celebrating many things that God is doing through the life of our church. As you lead your group this week, allow plenty of time for people to share what they see God doing.

Take some time to read through some of the scriptures listed. You will notice that each element of worship is biblical and important as we focus on God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Worship through singing

Psalm 95:1–2 ESV¹ Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Worship through baptism

Acts 2:38 ESV ³⁸ And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 22:16 ESV ¹⁶ And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.'

Romans 6:4 ESV ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Worship through God's Word

Joshua 1:8 ESV ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.

Psalm 119:105 ESV ¹⁰⁵ Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Romans 10:17 ESV ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

Romans 15:4 ESV⁴ For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Worship through surrender

Romans 12:1 ESV¹ I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. **Luke 9:23–24** ESV²³ And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. ²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

Luke 22:19-20 ESV19 And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **20** And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.

Worship through giving

2 Corinthians 9:6–7 ESV ⁶ The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

Luke 12:33–34 ESV ³³ Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Acts 20:35 ESV ³⁵ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Prayer is an important element of worship as well. As you close your time together, be sure to allow time for participants to share prayer concerns.

Close your time in prayer.