



Worship-Ready?

*"My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the LORD"
(Psalm 84:2).*

Worship defines God's people. When God liberated the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt, he sent this message to Pharaoh through Moses: *"Let my people go, so that they may worship me"* (Exodus 8:1). In the practice of worship, people are called to live out the highest command that Jesus gave: *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength. and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself"* (Luke 10:27).

Worship breathes life into the community of Jesus' followers, providing a place for people to learn about faith and listen to God. In worship, people express love for God, serve God, and experience God's gracious love offered freely. God's Spirit changes us through worship when we come seeking to connect with God, allow God's Word to shape us, and then offer our responses of faith.

How do you prepare for worship? What are the resources, practices, and perhaps people who help you feel ready to worship God? What would happen if you, either individually or with your growth group, actively prepared for worship before you arrived? What would that involve? A few suggestions include reading the theme scripture before you come (this week's passage is Luke 18:9-14), or leaving home earlier than normal, **or carving out a time of prayer before you come.**

Looking forward to worshipping with you!

Pastor David

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