



VICTORIOUS SECRETS

“Worship”

In our Christian journey, we develop our faith over time. Spiritual disciplines, then, are habits, practices, and experiences designed to help grow and strengthen certain qualities of spirit — to build one’s character and expand the breadth of one’s inner life. Some spiritual disciplines are personal, inward exercises that are practiced alone; others require interpersonal relationships and are practiced in community. This series will take a deeper dive into how we can become victorious in developing our relationship with God.

- Circle Time: What images or word pictures pop up in your mind when you hear the word, “worship”?
 - We connect the idea of worship specifically to God. What are other things that get worshipped in our world?
 - A word study of the Greek word for worship defines it as “*worth-ship*”. Literally the value we place on a person, place, or thing, dictates the level of our time and resources we are willing to spend. How does this help shape your understanding of worship?
 - Tell about a time you allowed your environment to either encourage worship in you or discourage worship in you?
- Read Daniel 3:1-7
 - Just based on this passage, what do you think King Nebuchadnezzar valued above everything else? What evidence do you point to for support of your answer?
 - What do you think the King received for himself by forcing everyone to worship him?
 - On Sunday, Pastor Nick taught us that when our consumeristic culture is applied to church it make us like King Nebuchadnezzar. What do you think he means by that?
 - What are some examples of how going to church can be perverted into a self serving activity?
- Read Daniel 8:8-23
 - Have you ever been in a position where your life was threatened as a result of your worship to God? If you were, what do you think your response would be?
 - This passage tells us that the furnace was so hot that those who brought Meshach, Shadrach, and Abednego to the furnace died as a result of the heat. Does it sometimes feel like our world is “on fire” around us? How do you think our worship of God show the world some hope in the midst of hopelessness?
- Read Daniel 8:24-30
 - Besides the fact that the 3 didn’t burn up, what did the king see in the furnace that amazed him? Who was the fourth figure in the fire?
 - When we understand that church is a movement in our communities and not merely a one our service on Sunday morning, what did it mean when Pastor Nick said that for us, church is not optional?