Zoom in to worship

This morning, I would like to ask for your attention. I want you focus in for the next 30 minutes or so by giving me your undivided concentration to what I am going to tell you.

The Hebrew word for attentive is “qashshab” which means to prick up the ears as in the action of a horse or donkey

The Greek word for attentive is (Ek – KREH- mah- my) means: to hang upon the lips of a speaker.

This morning I want to invite you into the heart of worship – I want you to come with me as we “zoom in to worship”

Illustration: in 2020 Zoom video conferencing software became a household name. With all the lockdowns, social distancing, work from home mandates Zoom hit an all-time high (10 m -300m per day). Brenda and I zoomed into the action. We met with others and worshipped together (awkwardly) . Then we were able to zoom into Ireland where we were able to pour into a couple every Sunday for 1 year. During the time we spent together, we were able to literally zoom in not only to Ireland, but into the very hearts of our now wonderful friendship. We discussed so many things, we zoomed in to God’s love and healing, fears, anger, insecurity, brokenness and so much church hurt. At the end of the year Brenda and I had the privilege of travelling to N. Ireland and officiating the wedding of our friends Scott & Alana. As we all zoomed in to honor God the result was a public celebration of Gods glory and goodness.

In the Psalms David is teaching us a beautiful and practical principle I would like to share with you

 Ps 34:3 O magnify the Lord with me And let us exalt His name together.

In Ps. 34 David was giving honor worship to God for his deliverance from King Abimelech.

Magnification will evoke a response of exaltation! -Magnification (zooming in) will create informed perspective

Illustration: Have you ever been to a restaurant and tried to zoom into the menu? - “Infinite zoom” videos youtube…

Magnification is defined as the process of enlarging the appearance of an object and is achieved by looking through a convex Lense

David is passionate about his request – “O magnify the Lord with me”

Worship loves company – but it must begin at home-in the heart

We can’t make God any bigger than He is ,but by zooming in to worship God becomes bigger to us and therefore bigger than all my enemies

When we are zoomed in to the wrong things – they become closer and bigger than they really are

When we zoom in to worship – God becomes bigger than your fears, He becomes bigger than your insecurities, He becomes bigger than your habits, bigger than your broken relationships, bigger than your finances, bigger than cancer, bigger than physical illness.

Are there areas in your life that are eclipsing your faith? Then come let’s magnify the Lord…

How do we “zoom in to worship”? (3 principles Draw close – transformation -Focus on Jesus)

Drawing Close to God: In James 4:8, it says, "Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you." This reflects the value we have of focusing and coming close, like zooming in on our relationship with God.

This is what we are desiring to do; but honestly its hard to do when we come in on Sundays and we have been struggling all week. Kids are sick – deadlines – busy schedules .

Learn to give God our hearts in worship Mon-Sat – Not wait till Sunday!

Transformation: In 1 John 3:2 , John writes, "*Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we will be. We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is****.***." This passage expresses the idea of clarity and insight becoming fuller and clearer—like focusing or zooming in over time.

As we learn to zoom in to worship – we get changed!

What do you need to worship through?

**What do you want to see changed in your life, right now?**

Focusing on Jesus: Hebrews 12:2 says, "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith." This idea of focusing or keeping one’s attention on Jesus aligns with Him and zooming in on what is most important.

Martin models a few songs (How do we worship through it?)

Good father - Housefires - (Zoom in to God as your Father)

No longer slaves – Helser (Zoom into your identity and victory as a child of God)

Blessed be your name – “On the road marked with suffering” Redman – (Zoom in to his comfort in adversity)

What is the result of “Zooming in to worship”?

Ps 34:3 O magnify the Lord with me And let us exalt His name together.

When we learn to zoom in and “magnify” the result will be that “we all exalt His name together”-

This is where His glory comes on us as a church – we find His power and His presence-His Glory.

When we learn to “worship through it” everyone around us gets the benefit.

Everything and everyone gets better when we worship God.

When you learn to “worship through it” -your identity changes – you find your healing, your marriages get restored, your children come to faith, we are able to achieve what we cannot with out Christ…

Ministry questions:

Will you make a commitment to zoom in to worshipping God today?

Are there any obstacles that you need to lay down today –

Is there something that you need to worship through today?