



discussion  
questions



July 29,  
2018

## BELONG

1. As a group, take turns sharing what you LOVE most to do or spend your time. Something you would surrender time with a love one to do. Read the following from CS Lewis, "If all experienced God the same way and returned Him and identical worship, the song of the Church triumphant would have no symphony, it would be plagued like an orchestra in which all the instruments played the same note."

Q – Discuss as a group this quote in the context of your worship experience in church. Do these words cause you to think about how you respond to the expressions of worship around you? Do you believe worship must be or should be expressed in the same manner by all? What is the value in being surrounded by different expressions or forms of worship?

## GROW

The following theme is taken from an article in Desiring God written by Pastor Josh Philpot (02Oct2016). Read Deuteronomy 12 – In this chapter, god speaks to the way in which he desires to be worshipped (Puruse the preceding chapter for additional context).

1. We are to Worship in the place of His Name (vv. 5, 11, 21). a. The Lord chose for the people of Israel where the Name was to dwell. It was here that worship was to take place. b. In the context of our world today, discuss as a group where the Lord has placed his Name to be worshipped. Is this restrictive, freeing, or doesn't it matter? c. As a group, develop a principle from this discussion and the application for our daily lives.

2. God is Our (Your) God. a. Read through the chapter and count the times the words, "The Lord Your God" (or some derivative dependent on the translation) is stated. b. Discuss why these words would be reinforced to the degree there were to the people of Israel at this time. Consider the context of where the people had been and where they were preparing to go. c. As a group, develop a principle from this discussion and the application for our daily lives. (note the personal nature of God's hand in their lives)

3. Don't Exalt Self in Worship. a. Read Deut 12:8 (also vv 3-4 for context) b. Discuss whether personal preferences of worship are wrong? If so, when and how is this manifested? If not, why not? c. As a group, develop a principle from this discussion and the application for our daily lives.

4. Chosen by God....Worship Like It a. Read the following from Pastor Philpot, "Thus, being chosen by God, we too are obligated to align our whole lives with the God who chose us. This means that we are to desire holiness. When our desires are rightly oriented, they can be put to sue as the fuel of our worship, not an inhibitor. Aligning our desires to the desires of God is the root of healthy living, which should motivate acts of sacrificial charity among all people groups – especially the vulnerable and marginalized in society. b. As a group, develop a principle from this discussion and the application for our daily lives.

## REACH

AW Tozer is quoted as saying, "If worship bores you, you are not ready for heaven".

1. As a group, share if there have been times where you "felt" bored in worship. What were the circumstances....spiritually, emotionally, etc. going on in life that contributed to this?

2. How does boredom in worship, assuming there are times you have been, carry over into live outside of the church walls? How are relationships with neighbors, coworkers, acquaintances in the grocery line, etc. affected?

a. What is the dynamic with these same people when you're in a healthy place of worship both inside and outside of the church walls?