

[Subscribe](#)

[Share](#) ▼

[Past Issues](#)

[Translate](#) ▼

Day one of the Campfire devotional series

[View this email in your browser](#)

REND COLLECTIVE

EST. 2006



Image by Brandon Eckroth

[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

incinerated, the fire has relaxed into embers and the chatter of the camp has gracefully transitioned into the good kind of silence. You finally lay your weary body on the damp earth and take in the night sky, eagerly waiting for shooting stars that probably won't show up, but you don't care because the search itself is so breathtakingly beautiful. You invent your own constellations. You breathe in the starlight, the wonder.

But, if you're like me, suddenly a little jab of conscience comes from out of nowhere. You realise that you've been wandering beneath this majestic sky every day of your life, yet this is the first time you've really noticed. You have been star-blind. Ugly, neon lights have been spoiling your view of the heavens. Your sheltered millennial life promised unending comfort and unlimited wifi but it hid an infinity of light from you. The LEDS have been drowning out the galaxies. You've been missing the point.

This is happening in modern worship. Some of our advancements haven't advantaged us. We, the church are becoming better and better at the show - the lights, the stage, the soundtrack, the video, the website, the app, the Instagram account, the coffee shop - but is this stuff really giving us a better view of Heaven?

More often than not, more stuff just means more clutter. And more clutter means more distraction. Just like the beautiful night sky, Heaven is always right there with us. It just might be harder to see behind the flashing LED panel and the dancers.

That's why every couple of years we literally unplug and take ourselves and our instruments out into the wild. We do our Campfire albums as a kind of therapy. We detox from the confetti cannons and tour buses and go back to our roots, back to simplicity.

Simplicity is the art of restoring a clear and unobstructed view of the things that really matter.

And no one is better at bringing us back to the simple heart of worship than Jesus.

**SIMPLICITY IS THE ART OF RESTORING A CLEAR
AND UNOBSTRUCTED VIEW OF THE THINGS THAT
REALLY MATTER.**

In John 4 He meets a Samaritan woman by a well and she quickly establishes that He is a prophet.

Naturally then, she begins to ask her most complicated theological question. She asks a technical

[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)

Jesus cuts right through all the technicality, religiosity and clutter lying around in her question. His brief reply is that the Father is seeking worshippers who worship “in spirit and in truth”.

This is the most detailed discussion Jesus ever has in the scriptures about worship.

Jesus doesn't think worship is complicated. For Him it can be summed up in a few words. Worship from the deepest part of yourself and be real about it. Be soulful and honest. Who are we to try to make it more complex?

You don't necessarily need to go to extreme measures like us and haul your instruments into the forest to pursue simplicity. Maybe it's just a matter of chilling out a bit about whether or not the stage looks perfect, or the sound is absolutely on point. Maybe it means gathering a few friends in your living room and singing some old hymns out of key together. Maybe it means having an intentionally stripped down Sunday service once a month at your church.

Whatever we do, let's stop cluttering up our view of Heaven. Let's not live star-blind anymore. It's time to look up!

CAMPFIRE

OLD ALBUM, NEW WAY TO LISTEN



In honour of Campfire II coming out later this year, we decided to bring Campfire I to Spotify for the first. time. ever. Which means it's now available to stream for free worldwide!

Being Irish we love free stuff and we love you all! We hope this album brings you joy as you're able to stream it anywhere.

[LISTEN HERE](#)

Subscribe

Share ▼

Past Issues

Translate ▼

TWITTER . FACEBOOK . INSTAGRAM . SPOTIFY



Copyright © 2016 Rend Collective, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)