



EKKLESIA

Swartz FBC Leader Discussion Guide



SCRIPTURE: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

SERIES: Ekklesia

TITLE: The Church Worships

BIG IDEA:

“God is the most winsome of all beings and in our worship of Him
we should find unspeakable pleasure.”

A.W. Tozer

SUMMARY

The church does many things. One of its primary functions is worship. We typically call singing by the name “worship.” Yet, there is so much more to worship than singing. Worship is a lifestyle, not an event or a singular activity. The Shema in Deuteronomy 6 is a loud example of what it means to worship: to love the Lord with all our heart, soul, and strength.

TEXT

⁴“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. ⁶And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. ⁷You shall teach them diligently to your children and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. ⁸You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Head / Heart / Hands

- What does this text teach me?
- What does it tell me to feel?
- What does it tell me to do?

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

1. TO WORSHIP IS TO LOVE GOD WITH OUR HEART & MIND.

- What comes to minds when you think of worship?
- How does the Bible describe worship?
- What are everyday indicators that help us gauge what we value?
- What does it mean to love God with our mind and heart? (Not merely one or the other.)
- How do we balance reason and emotion in our decision-making?

Application Question: Does the Lord have your heart and mind?

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

2. TO WORSHIP IS TO LOVE GOD WITH OUR IDENTITY.

- Why is it important that God made people to be different?
 - o How does this diversity glorify Him?
- If worship is a lifestyle and not just an event, what parts of our life are we most tempted to keep from the Lord's influence?
- What does it look like practically for our whole self (what makes us who we are) to belong to the Lord?
- Is it harder to surrender outward behavior or inward identity and disposition? Why?

Application Question: Is there part of you that doesn't belong to God?

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.

3. TO WORSHIP IS TO LOVE GOD WITH WHAT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN.

- What does strength entail in Deuteronomy 6:5?
- How are these things usable in a Kingdom oriented way?
 - o Time
 - o Money
 - o Energy
 - o Abilities
 - o Influence
- What is an example you have seen of a person using their gifts, abilities, and available resources to worship God and to serve others?
- How can work be worship?

Application Question: How are you leveraging your resources and abilities for God's glory?