
A Year in the Word

A Year in the Word: So Will I: Part 1

Small Group Questions: Words that will Shape our Worship

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Read

Psalm 47:1, 96:1–2; 104:24 –28; Luke 19:37–40; James 4:8; Exodus 3:4–6; and Colossians 3:16

Reflect

An angel of God appears to Moses in a flaming bush while he's caring for sheep belonging to his father-in-law. Moses turns to look at the bush, noticing it isn't burning up. When God sees that Moses has turned aside to look, God calls out to him. Moses realizes he is on holy ground and it is a moment that changes his life. He is fully engaged in the presence of God. When have you felt fully in God's presence? Would you call that worship? What does worship mean to you?

Pastor Josh Surratt offers us three simple words that can shape our worship:

1. Look.
 - a. How does it make you feel when someone doesn't make eye contact, is looking around, or checking his or her phone? Do you think God senses our distraction with him, too?
2. Listen.
 - a. What does Moses have to do before God calls out to him? When have you heard God's voice the clearest? Was it in a moment of worship?
 - b. How in your time of worship can you create more space to listen for God's voice?
3. Lean in.
 - a. How do you best express your worship of God?
 - i. Would you say you do it as enthusiastically as you cheer for your favorite sports teams?

Expressions of Worship

1. Clapping.
 - a. Do you clap in worship? Why or why not?
2. Shouting.
 - a. In the Battle of Jericho, God told the Israelites to shout before bringing down the city walls. Why before and not after? What promise from God are you waiting to be fulfilled? Is it time to shout?
3. Singing.
 - a. How does singing help you remember truth and internalize God's Word?
 - b. How does singing engage your emotions? What songs make you feel closest to God and united with others?
4. Raising hands.
 - a. What does raising hands during worship represent to you? How does it make you feel?
5. Bowing and kneeling.
 - a. Why has bowing and kneeling always been a way of worshipping God?

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?