

## Celebration of Discipline 11: WORSHIP

Worship is a response to revelation that takes place in numerous ways for countless reasons.

1. REMEMBERING Describe a deeply meaningful worship experience you've had alone or with others.
2. REFLECTING What was the experience in response to, i.e. what elicited your response?
3. DISCOVERING Read Psalm 105:1-8. You might circle or underline your answers to the questions.
  - What does it *reveal* about God and what kind of *responses* does it call for?
  - In your words, what does this poem teach about worship?

<sup>1</sup>*Hallelujah! Thank the Lord! Pray to him by name! Tell everyone you meet what he has done!*

<sup>2</sup>*Sing him songs, belt out hymns, translate his wonders into music!*

<sup>3</sup>*Honor his holy name with Hallelujahs, you who seek the Lord. Live a happy life!*

<sup>4</sup>*Keep your eyes open for the Lord, watch for his works; be alert for signs of his presence.*

<sup>5</sup>*Remember the world of wonders he has made, his miracles, and the verdicts he's rendered—*

<sup>6</sup>*O seed of Abraham, his servant, O child of Jacob, his chosen.*

<sup>7</sup>*He's the Lord, our God, in charge of the whole earth.*

<sup>8</sup>*And he remembers, remembers his Covenant—for a thousand generations he's been as good as his word.*

4. CONNECTING What descriptions of God are you most grateful for or in need of presently? Which worship responses are you drawn to?
5. RESPONDING Consider making the trait you identified your focal point each morning this week. Read about it, mull over it, sing it, hum it, celebrate it, and remember it. Ask God to guide your worship response. The following prayer was written by John Baillie, Scottish theologian. Think about using it to begin each day:

O Lord and Maker of all things, from whose creative power the first light came forth, who looked upon the world's first morning and saw that it was good, I praise You for this light that now streams through my windows to rouse me to the life of another day. I praise You for the life that stirs within me: I praise You for the bright and beautiful world into which I go: I praise You for earth and sea and sky, for scudding cloud and singing bird: I praise You for the work You have given me to do: I praise You for all that You have given me to fill my leisure hours: I praise You for my friends: I praise You for music and books and good company and all pure pleasures. Amen.

What characteristic will you spotlight? \_\_\_\_\_

**Worship is...not a retreat from reality, but a direct engagement with ultimate reality: God. Genuine worship is a response to God and what he has done; in it we make ourselves vulnerable to the story of Israel and Jesus.**

- Annie Dillard, *People of the Truth*