## **EXPERIENCING GOD:** Worshiping God

## REMEMBER THAT . . .

- Healthy relationships require at least a two-way experience.
- Experiencing God is going to be a different kind of experience because God is both like and unlike us.

Worship is an experience that should only happen between us and God.

When we get worship right we get everything right. When we get worship wrong we get everything wrong.

We cannot experience God without deliberate, accurate, active worship as a part of our lives.

Worship is about God first, foremost, above all, over, atop, highest, primary, chief.

That's because God is first, foremost, above all, over, atop, highest, primary, chief.

To not live out and declare the truth that God is first, foremost, above, over, atop, highest, primary, and chief is to live a life in conflict with reality.

... true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

Jesus in John 4:23b

God is looking for people to worship him.

- Worshipers must worship in spirit.
- Worshipers must worship in truth.

My worship then must be true of God and my worship must be true of me. I must mean what I sing and what I say and what I do as I live a life of worship.

TRUE WORSHIP HAPPENS WHEN GOD EXERIENCES US GLORIFYING HIM.

- My focus in worship is on God not me. God is the object of my worship. God is the audience.
- When I worship in spirit and in truth God is able to experience me. This is my goal in worship.
- When God experiences me in worship I experience
   God. My heart is aligned. My soul is enriched. There is nothing else like it.

God is present in our worship services to experience us. It is what he seeks. It is what he deserves. It is what we are capable of giving in our shabby fumbling way. And if we align our hearts and look clearly into his face and offer him our adoration in spirit and in truth then it all happens as it is meant to happen. The sovereign Creator of all that exists experiences the praise due alone to him. And in a mysterious dance, that few of us can completely understand, the Creator and the created find a joy and fulfillment and harmony for which they both seek.

My lips will SHOUT for joy, when I SING praises to you. Shout to God with LOUD songs of joy!

Psalm 71:23

To you I lift my EYES, O you who are enthroned in the heavens!

Psalm 123:1

CLAP your hands, all peoples! SHOUT to God with loud songs of joy!

Psalm 47:1

Lift up your HANDS in the sanctuary and bless the Lord.

Psalm 63:4

Come, let us worship and BOW down; let us KNEEL before the LORD our Maker!"

Psalm 95:6

When we engage in true, heart-felt worship our perspective on life changes. We exalt God, put him in the right place, and it brings a peace and a confidence that while everything may not be right there is a God who is large and in charge who I know will one day make all things right.

