



Discussion Guide
Worship — Part 3
LEADER GUIDE

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We're made to worship! It's part of our design. But how we worship matters just as much as the fact that we do. In this series, we're exploring what it means to worship God on His terms instead of ours and rediscovering the wonder of approaching Him the way He invites us to. This series will reshape how you see every moment you spend in His presence.

NEED A RESOURCE, HAVE A QUESTION, OR WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION?
Let us know how we can help! Contact your groups director or discipleship@rockbridge.cc

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"We are perishing for lack of wonder, not for lack of wonders."
[G. K. Chesterton]

LEADER RESOURCES || **Leader Note** *We do our best to equip, empower, and encourage you to shepherd your group well.*

- **Passage Summary**
 - Psalm 67 is a song entitled "Make Your Face Shine upon Us" and is asking for God's favor. It depicts a beautiful relationship of worship, where all the people praise God and see His ways, His power to save, His fair judgments, His guidance, and His blessing.

ENGAGE & CONNECT || **Leader Note** *The goal for the icebreaker is to prepare your group for the conversation ahead by connecting with one another's hearts and building joy together.*

Who here has grown something and had a weirdly abundant or underperforming crop?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER || **Leader Note** *Begin your time together thanking God for his presence and praying His word back to Him. Ask a few people to pray, taking a posture of humility and dependence!*

Lord God, teach us to worship You the way You deserve. Help us worship rightly, with awe and reverence and joy and thanksgiving.

MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE || **Leader Note** *Help your group memorize this verse together by having each person read it aloud. The goal is to enjoy hiding God's word in our hearts together.*

"I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth."
[Psalm 34:1, ESV]

BIG IDEA || **Leader Note** *Read this aloud so your group knows the theme of today's reading and discussion.*

Worship is a relationship between God and His people.

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION || **Leader Note** *Have someone read Psalm 67 aloud in the ESV. Your role is to FACILITATE, so keep your group moving along, encourage people to share, and look for opportunities to point*

out the grace and glory of God! Here are two reminders: 1) Every question does not have to be answered ... go where the Spirit leads! 2) Answers do not have to be read aloud ... they're for guidance!

1. What are the things that God does in this psalm? *He is gracious, blesses, makes His face shine, makes His way known, shows His saving power, judges with equity, and guides the nations.*
2. What are the things we do in this psalm? *We praise, sing for joy, and fear the Lord.*
3. Is it difficult to have things in this order—where God gets to do the saving, judging, and guiding work, and we take this backseat role? *It's difficult to leave the big things to Him when it feels like He isn't moving fast enough or deciding things the way we would have. Our role isn't passive, but it isn't in charge, either. That can be difficult to accept.*
4. When have you had a time of authentic worship? What happened? *Answers will vary, but authenticity is wholehearted, genuine, real, and exactly what is claimed—nothing hidden, nothing held back.*
5. What has tried to alter, lessen, or distort your view of who God is? How does a twisted view of God make worship impossible? *Worship in spirit involves that authenticity. Worship in truth means we are connecting our hearts with who God actually is. False gods, lesser gods, a distorted fraction of who God is... that is not worship in truth.*
6. When has worshipping God cost you something? *Often in scriptures, worship is accompanied with sacrifice, gifts, offerings, fasting, etc. When we give something up to worship God, we are making a statement of worth (worth-ship = worship) and saying, "God is worth more than this to me," or "I want You more than I want this thing."*
7. How can you let your life be shaped and led by God this week? *It may cost us something, but we can leave space for Him to be God and to set our schedules, our pace, and our direction. Seeking His face is worth it every time. This is looking up toward Him.*
8. What is your source of joy, happiness, safety, and value? *If it's anything but the Lord, there's room to exchange a lesser god for worship of the Lord. Many things can be occasions for those things, but the one in charge of them, the one we go to for all these things, is Him. This is looking inward to align our hearts with Him.*
9. How do you worship God differently because of this series? What has changed? *It's easy to look at a lofty ideal, then look to the next thing in front of us and forget to actually live differently. This is looking ahead—to bring the kingdom of heaven to the world around us.*

STEP OF OBEDIENCE || Leader Note This is an opportunity for people to put into practice what the Spirit is inviting them to do and live in obedience to God for the sake of love! You can encourage your group to be accountable to one another and use these to follow up with one another throughout the week.

Eternity-changing worship teaches us to *look up, look inward, and look ahead.*

As you consider your next step, reflect on: 1) How can you worship differently this week? 2) How does your worship impact your life?

Give your group a few moments to reflect on their answers to the questions above. Then have your group answer the question aloud. Feel free to separate into smaller groups of 2 or 3 for this question, so each

person has others praying with them for the needs they're taking before the throne.

PRAYER FOCUS || **Leader Note** *Be intentional about saving at least 5 minutes to pray together. Try the prayer activity below or pray for one another's personal requests!*

"Lord, let our worship be something that changes the reality we walk through daily. Let prayer bring Your kingdom to our homes and commutes and workplaces. Let all the peoples praise You, o God, let all the peoples praise You!"