

Sermon Text: Genesis 4; Hebrews 11

Sermon Notes:

Community Group:

Location:

Date:

Prayer Requests:

Lesson Topic:

Scripture References:

Lesson Notes:

What will I do as a result of our study?

Elements of Worship: Psalms

Questions for Reflection:

When it comes to worship, it is a biblical principle that we are unable to worship God fully if we are holding something against a fellow believer (Matthew 5:21-26). This is why we studied Community before studying Worship. Read Colossians 3:12-17. What do we learn in this passage about worship? And how does it correlate with our relationships with one another?

As we consider the spiritual discipline of worship this week, we are going to focus primarily on the aspect of singing—thus we will focus on the ancient collection of songs found in the Bible—the Book of Psalms. What kind of songs did Paul tell the believers they were to sing in Colossians 3:16?

One way to look at these different types of songs is this: **psalms** are songs that we sing to God; **hymns** are songs that we sing about God; and **spiritual songs** are songs that we sing about God's work in/for us.

Read Psalms 51 & 61. Notice how these ancient psalms are directly addressing God. What's a song that we sing for worship that is technically a psalm—a song we sing to God?

Spend some time in personal worship singing (or reading) some of your favorite, modern **psalms** of worship.

SOAP Journal:

Title:

Date:

Bible Reading: Psalm 51 or Psalm 61

SOAP Text:

(Choose the text to SOAP from the Bible reading)

S

O

A

P

Elements of Worship: Hymns

Questions for Reflection:

In our study today, we will focus on the second type of worship song that Paul encouraged believers to sing—hymns. Many people think that the only place to find a hymn is in a hymnal, but that's not completely accurate by our definition. If you were to read the lyrics of songs in a hymnal, you would discover that some of them are psalms; others are hymns; while others still are spiritual songs.

Read Psalm 19. This is a song that teaches us about who God is. What are some of the things that we learn about God from this psalm?

Read Psalm 19:14 again. What is different about this verse from the rest of the psalm? Would this verse be better classified as a psalm or a hymn? Why?

What's a song that we sing for worship that would be considered a hymn? Spend some time in personal worship singing (or reading) some modern **hymns** of worship.

SOAP Journal:

Title:

Date:

Bible Reading: Psalm 29

SOAP Text:

(Choose the text to SOAP from the Bible reading)

S

O

A

P

Elements of Worship: Spiritual Songs

Questions for Reflection:

The final type of worship song mentioned in Colossians 3 is a spiritual song—a song that testifies about the work of God in our lives.

Spiritual songs include traditional, “Stamps-Baxter” songs like “He Set Me Free” and “Since Jesus Came Into My Heart,” and modern songs like “Scars” by I Am They.

There are many songs that sing about the way that God worked in the lives of His children in the Book of Psalms. Read Psalm 105. What are some encouraging things that you learn from this psalm about the way that God worked among His people?

Sometimes we forget that before Israel was a nation, it was first a family—and a small family at that. If you were one of Abraham’s descendents, how much more would these stories mean to you? How would knowing God’s work in your family history benefit your life?

Something to consider... What would it mean to your children’s children’s children to be able to read stories about God’s work in and through you? If you do not write it down, who will?

SOAP Journal:

Title:

Date:

Bible Reading: Psalm 145

SOAP Text:

(Choose the text to SOAP from the Bible reading)

S

O

A

P