

# W.O.R.D: Worship

New series on our values.

- There are the global values of EN but contextualised for Melbourne
  - Lordship Evangelism Discipleship Spiritual Family Leadership
- The spell the word WORD:
  - Worship, Outreach, Relationship, Discipleship

Values help to define who you are.

- They direct, help make decisions, provide boundaries.
- They inform you mission and vision.
- **What are your values?** (they're betrayed in your actions)
  - You have them even if you haven't articulated them.

**We're doing this series so we can clearly articulate who we are.**

- This means that you can see if who we are aligns with who you are.
- Do you want to be a part of who we are? Can you be a part of who we are?
- Maybe this will provoke you to do our DNA class - our membership class.

Our first value is **worship**.

- Worship is more than music and singing (dancing, flag waving, painting)
- Worship is our human response to what we think is glorious.
  - Humans are worship factories. We are made to worship.
  - Sex, power, beauty, pain, leisure, success, comfort etc
- Christian worship is our obedient response to a glorious king.

**Revelation 1:12** I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and among the lampstands was **someone like a son of man**, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. 14 The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. 15 His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. 16 In his right hand he held seven stars, and coming out of his mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. 17 When I saw him, **I fell at his feet as though dead**. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. 18 I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

What do you instinctively do in the face of power and glory?

- Prostrate yourself. Acknowledge the power difference.
- You are in control and not me.

**Revelation 19:9** Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God." **10 At this I fell at his feet to worship him.** But he said to me, "Don't do that! I am a fellow servant with you and with your brothers and sisters who hold to the testimony of Jesus. **Worship God!** For it is the Spirit of prophecy who bears testimony to Jesus." **11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True.** With justice he judges and wages war. **12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns.** He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. **13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.** **14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.** **15 Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations.** "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. **16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of kings and Lord of lords.**

What is the correct response to this glorious king?

- Sing songs together for 30mins on a Sunday?
- Listen to CCW on our playlists?
- Or is worship really more than music and singing?

These are the bookends of Revelation.

- A book about worship: songs and music yes.
- But much more about faithfulness, sacrifice, martyrdom, trust, rejection of false kings, allegiance of the true king.
  - Music and singing are the heart's language to express allegiance: love and obedience to who/what we give ourselves too.

The best worship is passionate

- Not necessarily hands in the air, jumping up and down. Passion looks different from person to person
- But our worship has to cost us something
  - Do I **suffer** when I follow Jesus? Am I his witness/**martyr**? Do I stand for him when no one else stands?

The best worship is persistent.

- Do I follow and obey Jesus as the glorious King when life is going well? When life is going bad?
- Will I continue to follow and obey him 10 years from now?

### The best worship is productive.

- Music and songs and other creative expressions of worship can cause us to grow.
- But let's set our target higher: imagine a life (24/7) of joyful obedience to Jesus as the glorious king. That would change the world.

### **Conclusion**

We value the worship of Jesus because we value Jesus.

- We are passionate, persistent and productive when it comes to his vision, values, his people, his purpose, his name, his glory.

We value the worship of Jesus because we value relationship with Jesus.

- The best worship is passionate, persistent, productive and personal.
- Not an idea, philosophy, morality, concept, teaching or anything else but a person.
  - Jesus invites us into the privilege and pleasure of worshipping him, knowing him, loving him and being loved by him.

Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the King. He rules now over his Kingdom and our glad response for his life, death, resurrection and rule is worship: obedience, giving, singing, witness and declaration to name just a few facets of the worshipful life. Our life of worship of Jesus as King is our daily intentional relationship with him.