#### **Conversation Starters**

- Have you witnessed or participated in a ceremony or event that celebrated or gave someone honor?
- What stands out to you as you reflect on that time?

### **Discuss**

We were made for worship, to give God the worth and honor He deserves. Without it you'll never experience the spiritual depth and vitality you were designed for. Worship helps us order our life around God, encounter and experience Him, respond to Him, celebrate Him, and helps us receive spiritual encouragement and energy.

"I will praise you with music, telling of your faithfulness to all your promises...I will...sing your praises for redeeming me. I will talk to others all day long about your justice and your goodness" (Psalm 71:22-24, TLB)

- What's attractive to you about the benefits of worship for your spiritual life?
- Have you had anything in your life that's kept you from worshipping God?

Jesus taught that we should worship God in spirit and truth.

"True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth." (John 4:23-24, NLT)

- What does it mean to worship God in truth?
- How can a person worship God in spirit?

In the Bible, we find many different examples of ways to worship. Each person has unique talents and different modes of expression so some may come easier to us than others. There are also two that are deeply important to your spiritual life: baptism and communion.

"The people all stood up...All the people lifted their hands and responded, 'Amen! Amen' Then they bowed down and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground." (Nehemiah 8:5-6, NIV)

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit." (Matthew 28:19, NLT)



- What form of worship comes easiest to you (e.g., music, singing, giving, serving, praying, writing, etc.)?
- How can someone begin to consider all of life as an act of worship?

# **Next Steps**

If you've already made a decision to follow Christ, worship is essential to your ongoing spiritual development. Evaluate your spiritual life and consider taking one step of worship that we talked about. If you haven't made a decision to follow Christ, consider what worship would look like for your life as you continue exploring.

Mar. 15 & 17: TeamLife

Mar. 16: The Purpose and Practice of Prayer

Mar. 17: The Grounds Online Book Club: "After I Believe"

Mar. 28: Baptism

## **Continued Reading**

Read Matthew <u>18:20</u>; <u>28:19</u>; Psalm <u>28:2</u>; <u>71:22-24</u>; <u>88:9</u>; <u>59:16-17</u>; <u>96</u>; <u>Hebrews 10:24-25</u>; <u>John 4:23-24</u>; <u>Nehemiah 8:5-6</u>; <u>1 John 2:3</u>; <u>Colossians 2:12</u>; <u>Romans 6:4</u>.

### **Prayer**

God, when we take the time to really consider who you are and all that you've done, we can't help but praise and worship you. Admittedly, our hearts and minds, much less our actions reflect that worship you deserve. Thank you for the ongoing grace you give us. Help us to get this right in our lives. Help us to know and worship you in spirit and truth.

