

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



Worshiping

October 9 & 10, 2021

Buffeted by the waves of uncertainty all around us, blown about by one crisis or another, worship anchors us to God, the unchanging One, the One we trust is at work beneath our ability to see, the One in whom we hope. How's your worship life?

SCRIPTURE TEXT: PSALM 34:1-10

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

What is worship? How would you define it? Many of us have, unfortunately, turned worship into a noun. Worship is something we attend. Worship is something we “go to”. From that perspective worship is like a performance – trained professionals do their act and the rest of us passively observe...and, let's be honest, often critique. But that belies a fundamental misunderstanding of what worship is. Worship isn't a noun; it's a verb. It's something we do, or to be more precise it's how God's people are to live...not just on Sunday morning but every moment of every day. To worship literally means to ascribe worth to God, to tell God how worthy God is, to give God our praise and thanksgiving. God is the recipient of worship, not us.

Let's try and give some definition to worship. There are lots of definitions out there, but we find this one helpful: Worship begins with recognition of the awesomeness of God, continues when our hearts are gripped and moved by the love of God for us, and then is expressed in thought, word or deed. If we'll have eyes to see, so many experiences in this life draw our hearts and minds away from ourselves and to the awesomeness of God...a newborn baby, a sunset, a field of wildflowers. But it doesn't end there. Worship continues when we our hearts are gripped and moved by the love of God for us. A strange thing happens when we become aware of how awesome God is. We immediately become aware of how small we are. Finally, when we recognize the awesomeness of our God, and are gripped and moved by the love of God for us, we express it in thought, word or deed.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share what you think of when you hear the word “worship.”
- What is God teaching us in this passage?
- How might this passage change the way we think about worship?
- What does it look like to live as worshipful people on a daily basis?

APPLICATION: This week, allow yourself to become more aware of God's presence in every moment of the day. Recognize God's awesomeness and love for you each day.