

# Fire Catchers Classroom: Elevate Your Praise

## What is Worship?

Worship is accurately seeing God as he is, and responding to him.

The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying:

*Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God, Almighty,  
Who was and is and is to come.*

### **Revelation 4:8**

And their whole body, with the back, their hands, their wings, and the wheels that the four had, were full of eyes all around.

### **Ezekiel 10:12**

## What God Wants

God is looking for worshippers.

But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him.

### **John 4:23**

Worship is an invitation

God doesn't demand worship... he invites us to worship because it's the greatest invitation to know him. It's proof of the greatest triumph over bondage.

*God answered, I will be with you. And this is your sign to you that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain.*

### **Exodus 3:12 NIV**



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God gave Moses a promise:

1. The promise of his presence  
*I will be with you*
2. The promise of relationship  
*I am the One*
3. The promise of victory  
*When you have brought the people out of Egypt*

## The Big Mistake

In the 3<sup>rd</sup> month after the children of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on the same day, they came to the Wilderness of Sinai... so Israel camped there before the mountain... You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself...

**Exodus 19:1,2b,4**

God fulfilled his promise. But the people were still in bondage and closed off their hearts, and they answered:

Then they said to Moses, *You speak with us, and we will hear, but let not God speak with us, lest we die.*

**Exodus 20:19**

To be free, they had to go up the mountain to worship God there.



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## Mountain Metaphor

Scripture speaks about literal mountains but we also understand the metaphor of mountains.

Mountains: Literal

- “ thin places ” where heaven and earth are near
- Access is difficult, making obedience an act of worship  
David said, *I will not offer the Lord something that did not cost me anything.*
- Set apart, distant from the demands of life, free from distraction
- Shrines, altars, and temples were built on mountains/high places... like  
staking a claim

Mountains: metaphor

- Symbol of opposition, and victory
- Elevated experience
- Isolated experience

## Benefits of Going When God Invites You to Go

Intimacy

When God extends an invitation to join him... it's because **he's already there.**

Moses had an remarkably intimate relationship with God... all because he went up when God invited him.

There are times when you will have to leave the mundane and move

to a different plain to be where you need to be to be with God.



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## Supernatural Ability

Victory and achievement most certainly is outside of your personal ability. It will require ability from another source.

I will lift up my eyes to the hills --  
From whence comes my help?

**Psalm 121:1**

## Transformation

*Personal*

If you accept the invitation to go up the mountain, don't be surprised when you become transformed, and you start to shine ... from the inside out.

Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai, that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him [God].

**Exodus 34:29**

Not everyone is going to be happy about it...

So when Aaron and all the children of Israel saw Moses, behold, the skin of face shone, and they were afraid to come near him.

**Exodus 34:30**

*If the world hates you, you know that it hated me before it hated you.*

**John 15:18**

*Culture*

Everyone gets the spoils.



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God Almighty declares the word of gospel with power, and the warring women of Zion deliver its message:

*The conquering legions have themselves been conquered. Look at them flee!  
Now Zion's women are left to gather the spoils*

**Psalm 68:11-12 tPt**

The battle is won in the worship, the soldiers are the clean up crew. And everyone benefits...

Danger of Staying When You Should Go

Loss of Cultural Influence

When you stay, when you should go, you become like the culture around you, instead of influencing it.

When you stop worshipping then you allow what shouldn't be in your life.

Then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you, destroy all their engraved stones, destroy all their molded images, and demolish all their high places... But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then it shall be that those whom you let remain shall be irritants in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and they shall harass you in the land where you dwell.

**Numbers 33:52,55**

Deformation

Dr. Caroline Leaf, a Christian neuro scientist & psychologist teaches about the effects of toxic thinking. She proves... with science... how our brain patterns changes, die, or twist & pervert.

Yet they refused to honor him as God or even be thankful for his kindness. Instead, they entertained corrupt and foolish thoughts about what God was



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like. This left them with nothing but misguided hearts, steeped in moral darkness... This is why God lifted off his restraining hand and let them have the full expression of their sinful and shameful desires... all because they traded the truth of God for a lie.

**Romans 19:21,24a,25a TPT**

Worshipping God is good for your brain.

Fight back by praising God.

...let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

**Hebrews 13:15**

Fruit is the result of prolonged action.

Lose Territory

Where there is a void of God's presence, another will take its place...

For they also built for themselves high places, sacred pillars, and wooden images on every high hill and under every green tree. And there were also perverted persons in the land.

**1 Kings 14:23-24b**

Meanwhile the people sacrificed at the high places, because there was no house built for the name of the Lord until those days. And Solomon loved the Lord, walking in the statutes of his father David, except that he sacrificed and burned incense at the high places.

**1 Kings 3:2-3**

Barren /No Fruit

When you stay, when you should go, you experience barrenness.



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David brought the ark of the Lord to Jerusalem, and he worshipped with abandon. His wife was hard-hearted and disdained her husband for his passion.

Therefore Michal the daughter of Saul had no children to the day of her death.

**2 Samuel 6:23**

## Conclusion: High Worship

In 2017, God invited me to go up the mountain to worship him. There were several reasons why I was invited to be part of a team:

1. It would bless God
2. Worship precedes every move of God
3. Worship invites the glory of God to fill the place.

Light overcomes darkness.

The Glory of God is greater than any tarnished glory of the adversary.

## Be Prepared

Ask God to tear down the altars of idol worship in high places in your life.

It's necessary to remove the altars and rebuild them as altars to the Lord.

May **all the** high places **in your life be dedicated to the Lord.**

May you be transformed in the journey, expand your territory and have victory.

