

## INTRODUCTION

**Big Idea:**

## SCRIPTURE

Exodus 24:1-11

## EXPOSITION

I. The \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 1-2)

**Definition of worship** = Worship is the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of an awesome God.

II. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 3-4, 7)

How should the Word be preached?

A. With \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 3)

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C. With \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 3b, 7b)

**III. The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 5-6)**

**IV. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 8)**

**Definition of 'consecrate' = To \_\_\_\_\_ or set something  
aside for a \_\_\_\_\_.**

**V. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 9-11)**

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**V. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_. (vs. 9-11)**

Community Group Curriculum  
For the week of November 24, 2013  
"Illuminate: Why We Worship This Way"

**BIG IDEA:** When we give God the worship He wants He will meet with us.

**LET'S DIG IN!**

5 Key Elements in a Christ-focused worship service (read Exodus 24:1-11)

1. An invitation to **WORSHIP** (vv. 1-2). Read Hebrews 12:28-29. What is "acceptable worship" to God? How does "reverence and awe" toward God impact your worship to Him? Look at Romans 12:1-2 for further insight.
  
2. Proclamation of the **WORD** (vv. 3-4, 7). Notice that God's Word was given with authority (v. 3), with accuracy (v. 4), and with application (v. 7). In the New Testament we are given more complete information about how God designed His Word to be read and preached. Read Romans 10:14-18. In this passage there is a three-step God-designed process. What is it?

Step 1:

Step 2:

Step 3:

What does the phrase in Romans 10:15 "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" mean? Check out Isaiah 52:7 for further perspective. What characteristics make preaching powerful and what characteristics make preaching weak? Discuss in your group.

3. The presentation of **GIFTS** (vv. 5-6). Although Jesus has fulfilled the sacrificial system that existed in the Old Testament, He still wants us to give as a part of our worship. Offerings express thankfulness to God and remind us of how dependent we are on Him. How does your giving reveal your spiritual maturity (2 Corinthians 8:1-7)? What is the key to giving (2 Corinthians 8:5)? Giving can include your time, talents, and/or possessions. Studies have shown that children (I know this may be hard to believe!) prefer to give than receive. Why is this so?
  
4. Consecration of the **PEOPLE** (v. 8). The blood of animals made it possible for sinful men to have a relationship with a Holy God. Today, the blood of Christ makes this possible. After His sacrifice and resurrection, communion became the sign of the relationship between the church and God. Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-29. What

does communion represent? Why is it important to take communion regularly? What does it mean in verse 28 "...to examine himself" before taking communion?

5. Illumination of our **HEARTS** (vv. 9-11). In verse 10 it says "...and they saw the God of Israel." Our God is too awesome to describe but let's just look at a few passages on the greatness and glory of our God. Read the following passages and discuss in your group:

Exodus 34:5-7

Deuteronomy 4:24, 31; 10:17

Joshua 1:8-9

2 Samuel 22:32-34

Psalms 48:14; 54:4; 62:7-8; 116:5

1 John 4:16

Revelation 21:3

## **PRAYER**

- Pray the following passage of John 4:23-24 (NLT): *"But the time is coming and is already here when true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth. The Father is looking for anyone who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in truth and spirit."*
- Pray that we may worship in spirit and truth.
- Pray for our church family to remain united and focused on God, who is merciful, loving and patient.

## **FINAL THOUGHT**

Our culture today celebrates equality, where there is no distinction between those in authority and those under that authority. Our worship should reflect being under the authority of God and His Word. So what should be our response to His Word? Try this:

1. We should not read the Word of God like we read any other book. It is not written by men, but God Himself through others. The words change and save lives and conform us to the image of Christ.
2. We should approach the Word with reverence and awe. To know God's Word is to know God. Our approach to His Word should reflect reverence and awe as we read, reflect, meditate, and apply God's Word to our lives.
3. We should submit to the Word of God. There is nothing else in this world that can lay claim to being the word of the true and living God.
4. We should trust in the promises of His Word. If God promises to do something, it will happen. No excuses. No disappointments. No failures. God's promises will never fail (Joshua 21:45).