

# Honest To God

## Week 1 – The Essential of Worship

Teaching Notes

**Romans 8:28, Jeremiah 29:13**

The condition of our **heart** dictates the **direction** of our lives.

**1 Samuel 16:7, Proverbs 4:23, Psalm 50:7-8**

**Psalm 50:9-13, Psalm 50:14-15**

**Worship** is more than songs.

**John 4:23-27, Matthew 15:8-9**

### Three Fundamentals Of Worship

1. I will start with **Jesus**.  
**Matthew 17:5**
2. I will **surrender** my will.  
**Matthew 16:24-25**
3. I will learn to **think** like God.  
**Romans 12:2**

## Small Group Discussion Guide

### Overview

Most of us have had some experience with worshiping God through music, but worship is more than singing, more than just lyrics to a song. Worship is standing in the presence of God and declaring praises to His name by making Him the center of our life. Sometimes our idea of worship becomes distorted, and the object of our worship is no longer God. What is it that you worship? Is Jesus the center of it? Journey with us as we turn to the Bible to discover what it truly means to worship God.

### Opening Question

When you think about worship at church, what is the first thing that comes to your mind?

### Read & Discuss

1. **Read** *Jeremiah 29:13*

**Discuss** What are some characteristics of a person who is searching for God “with all of his heart”?

2. **Read** *Psalm 50:7-15*

**Discuss** What God is saying to the Israelites in these scriptures, and how does that apply to our lives today?

**Discuss** Why do you think that we sometimes find so much comfort in songs, rather than in the “true comforter”?

**Discuss** What changes do you need to make in order to have God as the center of your life?

3. **Read** *John 4:23-27, Matthew 15:8-9*

**Discuss** From these scriptures, what is God saying he wants from you and why is that important?

4. **Read** *Matthew 16:24-25*

**Discuss** these scriptures and what we need to do every day to honor and surrender ourselves to God.

**Discuss** What is the difference in our controlling our lives and letting God be in control? Give some examples of how that looks in your daily life.

5. **Read** *Romans 12:2*

**Discuss** We may desire to posture our hearts toward God every day, but there are many distractions to pull us away. What are some concrete things we can do to stay focused on God and eliminate distractions?

### **For Further Study**

#### **Read**

Begin reading through the Bible.