



LESSON 4 // THE HANDS OF WORSHIP

Big Idea: The wise men in Matthew 2:1-11 came to worship Jesus and “presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh” (verse 11). From this story we learn that real worship not only engages our heart, eyes, and feet, but also our hands. Hands of worship reach up to God in trust and praise, reach out to give, reach energetically to work, and reach forward in faith.

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 (NIV) *After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem² and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ...⁹ After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was.¹⁰ When they saw the star, they were overjoyed.¹¹ On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.*

Discussion Questions:

This weekend we learned about the role that our hands play in worship (literally and figuratively). Why do you think it’s significant for us to use our hands in worship?

Read Matthew 2:11. In this verse we read that the wisemen gave gifts to Jesus as part of their worship. What role does our generosity (willingness to give) play in worship? How can we cultivate this kind of giving in our worship?

What type of attitudes or mindsets keeps us from this kind of giving? What are some ways that we can overcome these obstacles?

Read Ecclesiastes 9:10 and Colossians 3:23-24. Another way that we worship is in our work. What are a few ways that you can be a greater worshipper at work? What steps will you take to accomplish this?

Hebrews 11:6: “And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek Him.” Is there something that you are believing God for that is requiring you to grow in your faith?

If not, what can you do to grow in this vital area?

Prayer Focus:

Pray together and ask for God to help you grow in your worship. Also, pray for how God would want to grow you in your generosity and faith. What are practical steps that you can take now? We encourage for this to be shared within the group for encouragement and accountability.