

Small Group/Sermon Notes based on Tasked 5

Remember, small groups are primarily for growing closer relationships with other believers. We can learn wonderful things in this environment but keep relationships first.

- Make sure everyone knows each other's names. Have everyone share a little about themselves and how life is going right now.
- Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to follow Christ!
- This week: Worship God.
- Paul's defense: **Acts 24:14-16.**
 - Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to worship God.
 - Worship is hard to define.
 - Lots of different Greek and Hebrew words translated "worship."
 - This one in Acts 24 means "serve" from the root word "hired hand."
- So, how do we worship God? Are there right and wrong ways? What do you think?
- Samaritan Woman Dialogue: **John 4:19-24.**
 - Spirit and Truth is how we are to worship. What do you think that means?
 - Big thing: not where, but the heart behind it.
- To get a feel for Biblical worship this let's look at 3 things:
- 1: Understanding our relationship with God.
 - First and foremost, understand we are not peers, not equals with God.
 - God is God, and you are his creation.
 - Certainly, God does not serve you, you serve Him.
 - They call it an "inverted relationship" with God when someone seems to assume that God should be serving them. Discuss that.
 - Don't get too casual with God, it can become irreverent.
 - We like casual...coffee and jeans. There is a real danger with that.
 - Distantly formal, stiff, and shame based isn't good either.
 - We want intimate, but also reverent. **Hebrews 12:28-29.**
- 2: Worship that God doesn't like.
 - Anything that involves sharing your worship. **Deuteronomy 5:8-10.**
 - When it is hypocritical. **Isaiah 1:10-20.** Ouch.
 - When it becomes religious action without God. **Mark 7:6-8.**
- 3: Worship that God does like.
 - Joyful singing! **Psalms 100:1-5.**
 - It's good to sing! Sing to God.
 - Living well. **Romans 12:1.**
 - Offering yourself as a servant to God (to follow His commands) is acceptable worship.
 - Sacrifice/offering. **Matthew 2:11. Genesis 22:3-5.** (Abraham's sacrifice.)
 - Tithes and offerings are worship.
 - This can be hijacked like music. Don't let it be.
 - Bowing down. **Nehemiah 8:5-8.**
 - Getting on your knees is not a religious weird thing.
 - Adjusting your posture when you pray is good. Don't get legalistic.
- Pray for each other before you finish up!