Focus in Worship

Adam Willingham · Revelation 5:8–14

INTRODUCTION

- Simply the fact that it's the first day of the week. And it's the Lord's day.
- It's the day that Christ raised from the dead, and it's the day that we worship God together.
- If today is so special, we ought to focus in our worship. You know, it's so easy to lose focus on what we're doing and lose focus of why we're doing it.

1 God Is the Center of Our Worship

Revelation 5:8–14; Exodus 20:18–19; Psalm 100:4

- Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing.
- Though we are not in the immediate presence of God, we are in God's presence.
- When we know that we are going to be coming to meet God, which we do every first day of the week, there should be an anticipation about that. There should be a preparation about that.
- To be in the presence of God is not a casual matter. But we make it a casual matter.
- Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.
- We have entered his gates, and his courts is his territory. We need to act like it. It's sober. It's serious. It's not casual.

2 Fully Focus Our Mind and Our Heart

1 Corinthians 11:23–29

- I will praise the Lord with my whole heart in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation. Not with half of my heart, not with 75% of my heart or 99% of my heart, but my whole heart.
- And I believe that every aspect of our worship requires inward focus.
- All the people were attentive to the book of the law.
- This is so important that we know what we're singing, that we think and engage our minds.
- The prayer that's being led only becomes your prayer if you internalize it.
- This self-examination is something that we should all do in the Lord's Supper and really in any part of our worship to keep a check on ourselves.

3 Eliminate and Ignore Distractions

- In order to have this focus, brethren, we're going to have to eliminate and ignore distractions.
- We have many distractions today. A lot of distractions they didn't have in the first century.
- So we need to always keep our hearts focused on what's important without distraction.
- Sometimes there are distractions that will pull our minds away, but what we do is we get our minds right back on track.

- If you get distracted, just quickly refocus on the worship.
- Some distractions can be prevented. Some of them occur because maybe we're being careless.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **This is something I want us to remember from now on, the best that we can. To praise the Lord with our whole heart in the assembly of the upright and in the congregation.**

MY NOTES