

WHY WE SING IN WORSHIP?

Text: Psalm 40

January 30-31, 2010



Start It

(10 minutes)

Leader:

As people begin arriving begin to guide the conversation.

1. This last week where did you see God's power and presence displayed?
2. Is music a big or small part of your life? What type of music do you like to listen to?



Share It

(20 minutes)

1. Do you like to sing? Under what conditions?
2. What is your favorite worship song? Why?
3. Which of the songs from this week's worship service did you find was the most meaningful to you and why?
4. What from this week's sermon did God use to speak to you? Why do you think this stood out?
5. When has there been a time when you have not wanted to sing?
6. In what ways did this week's message challenge you to sing in worship?



Video

(20 minutes)

1. What are your initial thoughts on Eric's message?
2. What was Eric's view of worship and how does that compare with your view of worship?

3. Eric said that praising God turned “tears into songs of praise,” what do you think he meant by that? How do you relate, or not relate, to this effect of praising God?
4. Eric closed with Colossians 3:15-17.
 - a. What theme is repeated in each of the 3 verses? When you worship God how do you express this?
 - b. What might this verse have to say to those of us who worship at Glenkirk on a regular basis?



Study It

(20 minutes)

Turn to Psalm 40

1. What are some initial thoughts about this Psalm?
2. In this Psalm, what acts of God does David acknowledge? What does he say God has already done?
3. How is David, the presumed author, worshiping God in this Psalm?
4. What do you think David is praying for (i.e. is he praying for God's help, is he praising God, etc.), and how is that demonstrated in the Psalm?
5. David cries out for God to "save" and "help" him (vs. 13); however, he begins the Psalm by praising God for what God has already done for him (especially in verses 1-3). What are some reasons why David praises God in the midst of his troubles? What does this teach you about worship?
6. If the word *blessed* means “happy,” then what clues does this psalm and this weeks study, give about the best way to happiness?



Live It

(10 minutes)

1. We often think of worship as what takes place on Sunday morning. Eric mentioned personal worship. Have you ever tried to “worship” God by yourself? What does that look like for you?
2. Plan the next few weeks to open your small group time in worship. Assign one person to bring a Psalm that is especially meaningful to them, and someone else to bring a song. If possible plan on a way to play the song so everyone can hear it together, if not just have the words read. You might assign a third person to bring a picture or work of art.
3. Read Acts 16:25-26. What happens when Paul begins to sing? This next week when you are in a difficult position, or find yourself depressed, try singing (if not out loud, at least under your breath). Be prepared next week to share with your group about any personal earthquakes.



Pray It

(10 minutes)

Conclude with prayer

1. Share any answers to prayers these last few weeks.
2. Leader:
 - a. Have everyone think of one prayer request they have. Without sharing it, have them formulate a short sentence in their head regarding this request (or at least one word). As you close in prayer begin by going around the circle and having everyone pray out loud their request.
 - b. Then spend a few minutes in silence giving everyone a chance to talk with God about what had been prayed by others in the group.
 - c. Close in prayer.
3. Close your group time together standing and singing the Doxology.