

# GodSense

## *Lesson 8 (Principles 40-45)*

### TEACHER NOTES

I. Review Lesson 7 assignment

II. Introduction/Review

If God says it, I will do it.

Getting to the real truth about myself and about what God says will free me to be fully me.

I will turn toward God in total, undivided commitment.

Even when I can't understand the difficulties in my life, I will trust God because I know that he is trustworthy.

I want to live every moment to its fullest, letting God live and work through me *now*.

Just as I accepted God's gift of salvation by faith, I must walk the same way. Not works, just faith.

I accept God's invitation to know Him better and to love Him more.

*Once we enter into a devoted, loving relationship with God, we will find that we desire to show Him how we feel. Worship is the natural means God has provided for our love and thanksgiving to be expressed.*

III. Cultivating a worshipping heart

A. The naturalness of worship

Romans 1:18-25

*Tribal cultures; making a god in their image – a glorified human. Need something beyond ourselves to honor, adore. The question is not whether we will worship, but who or what will we worship. If we do not worship God, we WILL worship someone or something else.*

B. The focus of worship

Acts 17:16-34

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*Reverence, honor, homage, regard, adoration. What do we reverence, honor? To what do we pay homage or hold in high regard. What or whom do we adore. That is the direction of our worship.*

C. The purity of worship II Corinthians 6:14-7:1  
*First commandment tells us to have no other gods before THE GOD. We need to eliminate from our lives the lesser gods that we serve. Vernick quote, p. 159. What idols in her list might you be worshipping? If you are worshipping someone or something other than God, you are not worshipping God in truth. He will allow no lesser gods.*

#### IV. Offering adoration

A. Reasons to worship I Chronicles 16:8-12  
*When we love, we want to express our love. We are not complete without it. Cyrano de Bergerac. Worship completes us. It is our response to who God is. God receives our worship as a way of making us complete, opening doors of relationship with Him.*

B. Speaking our worship I Chronicles 16:8, 9, 24  
*Adore from Latin orare meaning "to speak"; same root for orator (speaker), oracle (prophesy) and oratorio (musical prayer). Orison comes from same root and means "to pray". Adoration, to be effective, must be expressed. Worship through recitation of scripture, through prayer, through liturgy.*

V. Worshipping physically I Chronicles 16:23, 29, 30, 35  
*English wedding vow: with my body I thee worship. Worship that doesn't moves you, probably won't move God either.*

A. Music *We have a noisy God! Psalm 150:3-6; Psalm 149:1, Ephesians 4:19; Leonard Sweet: Our beings are bathed in vibrations that may very well set the tone and tune of our lives. Tolstoy: Music is the shorthand of the emotions. Music of worship helps us tune into the frequencies of God. Vibrate with the eternal.*

B. Movement *Psalm 95:6 Bow down before the Lord our Maker. Kneeling, walking, dancing, raising hands, bowing. Use our bodies to express the desire of our hearts.*

C. Sacrifice *Psalm 50:23 Sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me. Romans 12:1. Offering our bodies as sacrifices is our act of worship. Keeps getting off the altar.*

#### VI. Worshipping with our gifts

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A. Time *Serving Him and others, spending time with Him in prayer, or in the study of His word; making choices about how we spend the time we have.*

B. Talent *Using our spiritual gifts for His kingdom work. Chambers: Have I received a ministry from the Lord? If so, I have to be loyal to it, to count my life precious only for the fulfilling of that ministry.” Whatever we do, we should offer that doing up to Him as a sacrifice.*

C. Treasure *II Cor. 9:6-15. Our giving results in praise to God; give out of a thankful heart; give out of compassion; give out of obedience; give to store up treasure in Heaven (that’s where your heart will be)*

## VII. Worshipping together

*Prepare your heart for worship before you enter the service; give it your total attention.*

A. Unity *Matthew 5:23 Leave gift at altar to be reconciled to brother; cannot worship effectively if you are out of fellowship with someone in the body.*

B. Magnification *We are on stage; God is the audience. It is not important that we are pleased, but that HE is. The worship given by others revitalizes our own.*

## VIII. Receiving the rewards

A. Experience true joy *C. S. Lewis: In commanding us to glorify Him, God is inviting us to enjoy him.” We praise and give thanks and that gratefulness overflows into joy. A thankful heart is a happy heart.*

B. Know God *Lewis: It is in the process of being worshipped that god communicates His presence to men.” We open ourselves up to receive Him when we worship Him – He then is more willing to reveal.*

C. Be changed *II Cor. 3:18; reflect the Lord’s glory as we are being transformed.*

D. Release from self *Focus taken off of self and our problems onto God who deserves the attention. We will be freed, released from slavery to self, to ambition, to perfection, to success.*

E. Draw to one another *If God is the center of my attention and also yours, you and I are drawn closer together.*

# ASSIGNMENT

## Lesson 8

### Bible study

What are the reasons that the writer give for worshipping God and ways in which we can offer our worship in each of the following psalms?

Psalm 8:

Reasons to worship: *His name is majestic; children and babies bring Him praise; magnificence of creation; man's place in the universe.*

Ways to worship: *Praise in words; acknowledgement of His power*

Psalm 48:

Reasons to worship: *He is worthy of praise; He is great; He is a fortress, provides security for Jerusalem; He is eternal; He guides*

Ways to worship: *Acknowledge what He has done; mediate on His love; rejoice; tell the next generation*

Psalm 84:

Reasons to worship: *Those who dwell with Him are blessed; He provides strength; He doesn't withhold good things from those who follow Him.*

Ways to worship: *Cry out for living God; desire to be in God's hosue; raise; set hearts on pilgrimage; trust; pray; blameless walk*

Psalm 103:

Reasons to worship: *He forgives, redeems, heals, crowns us with love and compassion, satisfies desires, renews youth, works righteousness and justice. He is compassionate and gracious, abounding in love, slow to anger. He knows our frailties.*

Ways to worship: *Keep His covenant, obey His precepts; command praise from angels, His servants, and His works. Praise Him from your very soul.*

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### Journaling

Experiment with writing a psalm of worship to God. Begin by thinking about His greatness and majesty and write words of adoration and love. Then think about who He is in this world and write words of praise for His creation and for His activity in the world around us. Then think about who He is to you and thank Him for your relationship with Him and for all He has done in your life. Play with the words until they are in a form that expresses your heart. Then offer the psalm to God as a sacrifice of worship.

### Prayer

Spend time in prayer in which you ask for nothing. Pray only worship, praise, and thanksgiving. Experiment with a new physical prayer position while you do this: On your knees, bowed on the floor, standing with your hands raised, or in whatever posture you feel you can best express your prayer of praise and worship to our Lord.