

Values in Action

3. Sing (Another) New Song: Worship at Kings

1. What is your favourite hymn/worship song? Why?
2. What biblical examples of praise and worship can you think of?

(If people get stuck here are some examples - you don't need to look them all up, it's just to get people thinking!)

- Celebration after crossing the Red Sea (Exodus 15.1-18)
- Sacrificial system (Leviticus 9 and 23)
- Deborah's song of victory (Judges 5)
- Hannah's song of praise at her pregnancy (1 Samuel 2.1-10)
- Rebuilding of the Temple (Ezra 3.1-7)
- Psalms!
- Isaiah's vision of the scene in heaven (Isaiah 6.1-5)
- Mary's prayer (the Magnificat) (Luke 1.46-55)
- Last supper (Matthew 26.26-30)
- 'Sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs to one another' (Ephesians 5.19)
- 'Do not give up meeting together' (Hebrews 10.25)
- Scene in Heaven (Revelation 4, 5 and 14)

What conclusions do you think we can draw from those examples?

3. **Write this statement on a piece of paper so people can see it:**

'The purpose of worshipping God is to lift the individual from their daily life and allow them to hear God speak more clearly.'

Discuss how far you agree with this statement about why we worship together? Why/why not? What would each person in the group say worship is for?

(Being able to see the statement will help some people to think about it rather than just listening to it.)

4.
 - a. Some non Christians report that on a Sunday it is the worship, rather than the teaching, that has a greater impact on them. Why do you think that might be the case?
 - b. How do you view/feel about the times of worship we have as a congregation at Kings? Why?

Often Scripture that demonstrates worship is a corporate activity. E.g. all the nation of Israel; the angels and elders round God's throne; groups of believers each bringing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs.

5. How might we all take responsibility for our worship life, rather than just depending on the worship leader? What attitudes and behaviour do you think encourage us all to praise and worship God?

(If you have one of the worship leaders in your cell you might like to ask them how they view and feel about their responsibility, and what they think would help our worship life grow.)

6. What suggestions do you have for ways we might worship God in a smaller group too - like a cell?

(You might like to pool ideas and try some of them out over the course of the term.)