

## Small Group Guide

### WE GLORIFY GOD

*The Church at Brook Hills, David Platt and Matt Mason January 13, 2013 Hebrews 10:19-25*

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This guide is a tool to help you lead your group into spiritual transformation. Use it as a resource to train your group into potential disciple-makers and lead your group in discovering, owning, and applying the truths of God's Word. There may be aspects you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth. Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on an aspect of their relationship with God. Your role is to help facilitate this encounter with God in His Word with His Body, not just to complete the guide. Use this as a flexible teaching tool not a rigid group task list.

### **Relate . . .**

*Begin your group time by engaging in relational conversations and prayer that may include the following elements:*

***Welcome**—a simple, brief time to greet one another (especially new friends), enjoy refreshments, and make announcements.*

***Review**—a time to review the truths discussed last week and report on how members have had success or frustrations in applying those truths during the week. (The leader will want to provide encouragement and shepherding during this time.) Periodically, the leader will also want to review the gospel and allow members to share reports about opportunities they've had to share the gospel. Occasionally, the leader will want to review the vision for the group and discuss ways to accomplish that vision better.*

***Prayer**—a time of general prayer with the whole group praying for struggles regarding the application of truths, for those with whom the group is sharing the gospel, and for understanding of today's truths.*

### **Reflect . . .**

*Use the following summary and questions to review this week's message and reflect on its implications for our lives. (As a training tool, leaders might want to have various members summarize the teachings in their own words each week sharing how they think the Scripture applied to the original hearers and how the principles apply to us today.)*

#### **Message Outline**

#### **WE GLORIFY GOD** Hebrews 10:19-25

##### **Christian worship is God-centered.**

- God orchestrates history to display His glory.
- God ordains the church to enjoy His glory.
  - So we cultivate a high view of God (as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).
  - And we nurture a humble view of ourselves.

##### **Christian worship is Word-driven.**

- As we expose the Word, God directs our worship.
- Worship thus becomes a rhythm of His revelation and our response.

##### **Christian worship is gospel-saturated.**

- We declare the gospel in our preaching, our praying, and our singing.
- We dramatize the gospel through baptism and the Lord's Supper.

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### **Christian worship is personally honest.**

- We are honest about our sin.
- We are honest about our suffering.
- We are honest about our salvation.

### **Christian worship is appropriately horizontal.**

- We are a community of faith participating together in worship.
- We edify one another as we express unity alongside one another.

### **Christian worship is authentically expressive.**

- Affections in worship...
- Drive actions in worship.

### **Christian worship is inevitably missional.**

- Worship is the fuel of our mission.
  - Our praying...
  - Our giving...
  - Our going...

Worship is the goal of our mission.

### ***Message Summary***

Today's message challenges believers to glorify God as they worship Him together as a faith family, and using Hebrews 10:19-25, it takes a deeper look at worship that is acceptable to God. Through the Word, we are challenged not to lose sight of the wonder that happens when we gather as a people of God to meet with God. This message focuses on seven characteristics of Christian worship: God-centered, Word-driven, gospel-saturated, personally honest, appropriately horizontal, authentically expressive, and inevitably missional.

### ***Group Discussion***

Use the following questions to help review the application of God's Word to our Head (What does God want me to know?), to our Heart (What does God want me to desire/value?), and to our Hands (What does God want me to do?).

- Why is it important for believers think about the kind of worship that is acceptable to God? What happens when we are not intentional about the way we worship Him?
- Why is the way we worship as a faith family so important as we seek to glorify God? Why does He want us to join with other believers to worship?
- How does our satisfaction and enjoyment of God depend on our worship of God?
- Pastor David noted that worship is a rhythm of His revelation and our response to it. How have you experienced this connection in your studying and worship? How is our worship rooted in our theology?
- How is the gospel central in our worship gatherings? How have you experienced growth and been challenged in your walk with Christ as you have been part of the following: hearing God's Word preached, praying as a church body, singing songs, witnessing baptism, and partaking in the Lord's Supper?
- Why must Christian worship be personally honest? What prevents your honesty at times?
- How has God used the faith family to comfort you in the midst of suffering? Has He used you to comfort others as they have suffered? How does this mutual comfort drive you to worship God?
- What does it mean for Christian worship to be appropriately horizontal? Can worship be inappropriately horizontal? Why does worshipping God spur you to speak truth and show love to others?

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- Consider Colossians 3:16 and Hebrews 10:24. How does being involved with the believers around you fuel your worship?
- Why are our affections essential in worship? How do our affections for God reveal our knowledge of and love for His Word?
- Why does worshipping God always drive us to share Him with the world? How does the reality that our mission will one day be over drive you to sacrifice for that day as you enjoy God now?

### **Respond . . .**

*Encourage your group to break out into smaller, same-gender groups where they will respond to the truths of today's study. These groups will share with one another based on the following questions and then close in prayer:*

- What are some of the main truths that God wants you to know from this study?
- How do your thoughts need to adjust to align with these truths?
- According to the truths from this study, what does God want you to desire/value?
- How do your values need to change to align with His values?
- What actions does God want you to take according to the truths of this study?
- What is an action that you can start to implement today or tomorrow?
- What is going to be the most difficult aspect of this study to personally apply?

Close this time by praying for each other, specifically for strength to apply these truths, for personal needs, for the lost people with whom you are seeking to share the gospel, and for our weekly prayer focus as a church.

### **Weekly Prayer Focus ... (from our worship guide)**

- *Church: Ask God to transform our lives into living acts of worship of Him. Pray we will always be humble in worship, focused entirely on God and not on ourselves or each other. Pray we will be honest in our worship, doing so in spirit and truth. Pray for clarity in our worship as we study God's revelation of Himself through His Word and respond to what we study. Pray for God to strengthen and unify the community of our faith family through our worship together. Pray for diversity in our worship as we seek to glorify God by making disciples of all nations.*
- *Local: This week we join churches across our nation in praying for the value and sanctity of life in America during the month of January. We are particularly praying for local ministries whose focus is saving the lives of the unborn. We are also praying for Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church and Timothy J. Woods, Pastor.*
- *Global: This week we are praying for Brook Hills Church Planters Ryan and Bethany B. Ryan and Bethany, along with their two boys, will be commissioned and sent out this week from our faith family to plant their lives in Central Asia among a very difficult and hard to reach people group where there is no established, multiplying church. Together as a faith family we will send them, support them, and strengthen the work this team will do. Please join us this week in praying for their family as they take the next step in their journey towards Central Asia. We are also praying for our short-term team serving in the Middle East.*