**This Thing We Call Worship—Week 5 (Creative Worship Service)**

**3/5/17**

Hey everyone! Our message is going to be a little different today. We are going to have what I would like to call a creative worship service. This message will be a little more interactive and you’ll get to experience some things you may have done before and some other things you may have not experienced. In order to help us to get in the right mindset, here is our THP for today…

**THP: Worship is a lifestyle.**

Here at 5th/6th grade, we talk a lot about what a life of worshiping God looks like. It can’t just be about belief in God, coming to church, or just trying to be a good person. Romans 12:1 says, *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.”*

The Bible is challenging us here to give our whole bodies, or lives, over to God. Our bodies include our minds, our hearts, the words we say, our emotions, our attitudes, and most importantly, our decisions and actions. Our whole life should be about worshiping God because worship is a lifestyle!

**For the next several minutes, we will spend some focused time worshiping God. I would ask that you remain quiet, be respectful, and treat this as a holy moment.**

**Scripture**

We are going to have some verses from the Bible up on the screen. I will read them out loud first and then you will read them silently to yourself. After the verse is read, a question will come up on the screen. Silently read the question and take some time to think about/reflect on your answer. Pray over your answer. Please be quiet and respectful during this time.

**(Leader)** *Psalm 95:6: “Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.”*

-How can I worship God this week with gladness and joy? (Question on screen)

**(Leader)** *Hebrews 12:28: “Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe.”*

-How can I worship God this week with respect and awe? (Question on screen)

**(Leader)** *Colossians 3:17: “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”*

-How can I do everyday things (obeying my parents, trying my best in school, playing sports, doing chores, respecting teachers) for the glory of God? (Question on screen)

**(Leader)** *Proverbs 3:5-6: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.*

-What is one area of my life where I need deeper trust in God? (Question on screen)

**Prayer (Leader)**

We are all going to take some time to pray as a group and individually. I want all of us to pray and ask God to help us do what we talked about last week. I want you to pray and ask God to help you to SUBMIT to Him. Your whole life. Make a commitment to submit to Him in all areas of your life. Maybe there is one particular thing you are struggling with right now. Pray right now and tell God that you need His help. God always hears prayer and loves when we talk to Him! I want everyone, no matter where they’re at in the room, to kneel down on the floor and pray about these things together. Kneeling is a posture to show deep respect and love for God. It is a symbol of how in awe of Him we are. Once again, here are the three things I want you to pray about: 1) Ask God to help you submit control of your life to Him, 2) Pray and ask Him to help you with a current struggle you are having, 3) Lastly, pray for a person in your life who is currently going through a tough time and ask God to help them. After a few minutes of silent prayer together, I will ask you to stand back up.

**Communion (Leader)**

When Jesus Christ was sharing his final meal with his disciples, he took a loaf of bread and passed it around his disciples and told them to eat a piece. As they did that, he said, “Take, and eat…this bread represents my body which will be broken for you. Whenever you eat a meal together and see/eat this bread, do it in remembrance of me.” After that, he passed around a cup and told them to each take a drink. As they did that, he said, “Take, and drink…this is my blood which will be shed for you and for the forgiveness of your sins. Whenever you eat a meal together and drink from your cup, do it in remembrance of me.” Right now, we are all going to take communion together and remember the greatest act of love anyone has ever done: Jesus willingly going to the cross and sacrificing himself so that all of our sins could be forgiven.

When you share a meal at a table with someone important, you usually go to their house since they are so respected or hold a position of authority or power. Here’s what communion is all about: it’s all about Jesus, the one true King, actually coming to our house and eating at OUR TABLE. We are not worthy to be in the presence of a perfect God, but because He loves us so much, He simply wants to spend time with us. How awesome is that?! We are all going to come up to the front and make a line. Tear off a small piece of bread, dip it in the juice, eat it, and then head back to your seat. Please do this in complete silence so we can be respectful of our God and each other. You can come and take communion when you’re ready.

**(Leaders Note: After communion is over, please do the closing section.)**

**I hope today helped you grow closer to God. Let’s make it a priority to spend time during our week to read our Bibles and spend time in prayer. Let’s allow our THP to be a challenge to all of us: worship is a lifestyle. Let’s pray.**