

in worship and praise, and love and adoration often throughout the day and let Him sensitize your heart and gentle your spirit so that you enter into His presence and peace even in the midst of your other occupations.

You'll be unhappy when you fail to please Him, happy only when you give Him pleasure.

You'll find Him teaching you to accept what He sends your way, pleasurable or painful, as from His good hand of love for your good and His glory. You'll find the resistance, resentment, and rebellion that have characterized your life subsiding. You will become more pliable in His hands, as He seeks through the trials of life to mold you into His own image.

You'll begin to experience what it is to be united to Him, to abide in Him, to live contentedly at home in Him, to have His life flow in and through your life.

The overflow of His life through yours will bring blessing, light, life, and eternal salvation to others.

Never Stop!

But should you stop spending this precious time seeking the Lord, listening to His voice, focusing your thoughts, attention, and affection on Him, worshipping Him, coming into His presence and peace, all of this will grind to a halt.

Yes, it may seem at times that God withdraws Himself. And, if it is He Who withdraws, it will certainly be still for your good and His glory. At such a time you must continue seeking Him, and worshipping Him as best you can, no matter how fruitless it may seem. In the long run it will be anything but fruitless.

But, you may find it hasn't been He who has withdrawn Himself, but you who has withdrawn from Him. Go back to the beginning and learn again to give Him your thoughts and attention in the practical kinds of ways I've suggested.

More Ways to Worship

Look to Him, wait on Him, rest in Him, and be still before Him. Actively seek Him or yearn for Him in love. These, too, you can do as the spirit may lead. And God may teach you more besides.

Ask Him to teach you to trust Him regardless of how out-of-whack things may seem to be.

But return again and again to the simplicity of reading, listening, or singing in such a way as to have your thoughts drawn from yourself to the Lord. Then praise Him, love, honor, and adore Him. Center your heart on Him. Worship Him. Pray His characteristics to Him. Sing His praises.

Let your sensitized heart come to rest in peace in Him, and let the overflow pour out to the blessing of all the world around to the praise of His glorious name.

WORSHIP THE LORD!

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"Proclaiming Christ Jesus All-Sufficient Always in All Things to All Men Everywhere"

Transformed Living Messages by Pastor Marr

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The Way Into God's Presence - WORSHIP

By: Pastor Ron Marr

When we come to God in prayer, the question is, do we come to God?

Often we don't very well come to Him at all.

We remain all wrapped up in ourselves, our wants, our needs, our problems, our shortcomings, our failures, our sins, and our guilt.

We're Disappointed in Prayer

No wonder, then, that we come into our prayer time and leave without any sense that much has been accomplished.

We go there to commune with God. We go there with the hope that we might be drawn closer to Him so our lives might be transformed into those that would better please Him. We go there to learn to overcome sin and live in Christian victory. We go there in the hope that we might be happier with our Christianity than we've been. And we leave again feeling that none of these has happened.

This will not do. Nor is it necessary.

Come to Worship

When we come to God, let us come to worship Him. Let our eyes be removed from ourselves and all that is ours in this world to the eternal God and all that is His.

Right from the beginning; feed your spirit on Him and all that you know of Him. Whether it is your Bible that you open first, or a topical Bible, or a devotional book, be sure that it isn't to feed your thoughts of yourself and your concerns about yourself and things of this life. Be sure instead that you feed your thoughts of the Lord Himself.

How to Worship

If the devotional book you're using fails to accomplish this, look until you find one that does. If the passages of scripture you're reading fail to do this, turn to those that do: the first few chapters of Revelation, the last few of Job, the worship Psalms, parts of Isaiah, and so forth. Go through your entire Bible finding and marking such passages so you can readily return to them again and again. Request for my Psalms for Worship TLM, and read it again and again. Whatever you do, feed your spirit on thoughts of the Lord Himself.

Then seek to worship Him. Praise Him. Adore Him. Offer Him your love, poor as it is. Talk to Him about His worthiness to be loved, worshiped, praised, honored, magnified, and adored. Sing praises to God. Talk to Him about His characteristics: His love, kindness, faithfulness, goodness, mercy, grace, might and power, knowledge and wisdom, His presence everywhere, His justice, glory,

and beauty, His infinity, His perfection, His holiness, His changelessness.

Talk worshipfully to Him about Himself until your heart grows tender toward Him, until you come to rest in peace in Him, until you are satisfied with Him and Himself alone.

Perhaps before you get that far, He will remind you of the things that stand between you and Him: particular sins, your general sin and failure to please Him, your self-centeredness, your sense of hopelessness and perpetual failure. Then you will need to repent of your particular sins. You will need to acknowledge your hopelessness in yourself and your overwhelming need of Him.

Leave off Your Self-Thoughts

But mostly you will have to leave off your self-thoughts and by His enabling turn your thoughts to Him in love and peace and worship.

Return quickly from any self-thoughts to feeding your spirit on thoughts of Him. To keep them long turned to yourself is self-defeating. There is no hope in you. There is no life in you. There is no light in you. There is no joy in you. There is no peace in you. If you would enjoy any of these, you will enjoy them only in Him.

So let Him have your thoughts, your attention, your affection, your worship!

At first to do this at all, at least with any degree of sincerity, may seem impossible. And it will be – if you're willing to give the Lord only a few rushed moments of your time.

Give Him Your Time

You may need to spend a half hour, an hour, or more feeding your thoughts and your spirit on the Lord and thoughts of Him before your attention is significantly removed from yourself to Him and your heart becomes sensitive or tender to Him.

You can't hurry this process. Nor can you let your heart remain possessed by self thoughts. Let go of anything and everything that tries to take priority over the Lord. Especially will life's have-tos need to be released to the Lord. The only have-to at that point must be the have-to of seeking the Lord and worshiping Him in love.

Glorious Rewards

Oh, glorious have-to. Oh, wondrous freedom. Oh, what joy. Oh, what bliss!

A taste of heaven on earth!

Well worthwhile is it to give your time, attention, and worship to the God of heaven. You will be rewarded a thousand times over and more.

But not only will your sense of being in His presence and its attendant joy be your reward. You will find opened to you the door to all else that you have been seeking from the Lord in the spiritual dimension and so long failed to find.

The fruit of the Spirit will begin in dynamic new ways to grow and be evidenced in your life. And the elusive spiritual victory that you so long sought so fruitlessly will little by little begin to emerge.

You won't be satisfied to seek the Lord and worship Him only in your times of private prayer. You'll want to turn to Him