

More Than a Name

Module: WHAT IS WORSHIP?

Lesson 3: SAME TIME, SAME PLACE

Objectives:

- Students consider when and where worship can take place
- Students will be challenged to reflect on the expression of worship in their life

Materials needed:

- Nooma video #4 - "Sunday"
 - <http://nooma.com/nooma-sunday-004-rob-bell.php>
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bcoatxqfUuE>
- 2 small pieces of paper per person
- Pens or pencils
- 2 bowls or 2 hats to collect papers in

Minds On

Play a game called “How often do you...” Give each person 2 pieces of paper and something to write with. Have the students write, or ahead of time put “*How often do you...*” on the first piece of paper and ask them to complete the sentence with something that fits. For example, “How often do you brush your teeth?” or “How often do you skip school?”

When this is done, have students write an answer to the question on the other piece of paper. For example “3 times a day” or “when my breath gets smelly” could be answers to the question about brushing your teeth and “once a semester” or “every time I get really bored” could both be an answer for the second one. To make help make things more entertaining, encourage students to right context or emotions for their answers and not just numbers for the answers.

Place all the Questions in one bowl and the answers in the other bowl, and once all the papers are collected, pass the bowls around and have students pick one random paper from each bowl.

When everyone has one question and one answer, go around the group, taking turns to read the question and then the answer. The results should be quite funny depending on what they wrote.

Say something like: There are a lot of things in our lives that we do on a regular basis. Some are done out of necessity, like eating or sleeping, and others are done out of habit or tradition. There are also some things that we do, and we aren't quite sure why...we just always have or do it without thinking. Unfortunately, sometimes the way in which we worship God falls in to some of these categories.

Action

As you begin, review the concepts of the past 2 weeks. If you held on to their original thoughts in answer to the question “*What is worship?*” from lesson one, use this time to revisit these definitions and ask students to share how their thoughts or opinions have been changed or

confirmed over the past few weeks.

When this discussion is coming to a close, ask the students if during your discussion the words “*Sunday*” or “*church*” had been used. If they have not, you can lead the conversation towards wondering whether they should have, and if they have, then you could ask why.

At this time, show the students Nooma #4, entitled *Sunday*.

When the video is complete, lead the students through a discussion about what they have just seen and heard. One of the lines in the clip says, “God is concerned with the condition of our hearts”. Spend time discussing that quote, asking students what they think it means. To help with your discussion, there is a guide book that accompanies the DVD or a pdf version can be downloaded.

(<http://www.stmartins.co.za/documents/nooma/sunday.pdf>)

In addition, ask the following questions:

- If I were to erase Sunday from your week, what would worship look like in your week?
- What role does worship have in your life the other 6 days of the week?
- How do you spend time with God?

Consolidate/Debrief

In light of your discussion, challenge your students to think of some tangible things that they could do over the following week to spend more of their time in worship. Also, push them to think about their normal attitude when coming to church on Sunday, if they attend, and suggest that they focus on coming, not simply out of habit, but because they want a deeper relationship with God.

Invite students to share some of their ideas and pray for them, either in small groups or as a whole.