

Momentum/Friction

Module: Foundations

Addendum I: Worship

Objectives:

- Students will be able to explain to others why we gather for worship.
- Students will properly define worship as more than just music.
- Students will discuss ways in which we worship both publicly and privately.

Materials Needed

- ☐ Bibles
- ☐ Dictionaries or on-line access
- ☐ Handout "Worship" per student

Minds On

Before beginning this lesson have the youth play a game such as 4 on the couch to get them interacting with each other. For a brief description go to:

http://www.youthpastor.com/Games/index.cfm/Four_on_a_couch_245.htm.

The instructions for this game are as follows: to play this game you need chairs and a couch. If you don't have a couch available use 4 chairs as a pretend couch. Place chairs in a circle with the couch as part of the circle. Place 2 girls and 2 guys on the couch (preferably girl, boy, girl, boy) and the rest of the people in the chairs. You need to make sure that there is one empty chair in the circle. Have every student write their name on a piece of paper. Place all the piece of papers in a basket. Go around the room and have everyone pick out one of the pieces of paper. They must not let anyone know whose name they have. The person to the left of the empty chair begins by calling out someone's name. The person who is holding that name must move from their seat to the empty seat. The person who called out the name and the person who moved to the empty chairs trade the papers with names on it. Then whoever is next to the new empty seat calls a name out.

The winner of this game is the gender that gets 4 people on the couch (i.e. If there are 4 guys on the couch then the guys win and vice versa). As people call out names they will want to try and call people off the couch. This will allow them to use that spot to get someone called to the couch as per the above instructions.

Say something like: *Each week over 1 billion people who call themselves Christians gather for worship. But, what is worship? Why do we get together? In John 4:23-24 Jesus states that the time has come "when the true worshippers will give worship to the Father." What is true worship? Worship is a term that is often used in our churches to refer to the songs that we sing. That is just not an adequate picture of 'true' worship.*

Action

First, it is important to properly define worship. In many circles this word has been reduced to mean only music. So, begin by having each student use dictionaries to come up with definitions of the word worship. Then, divide your youth into groups of two (this is a great opportunity to mix up youth so that they are working with people they don't usually talk to). Have the groups spend time talking about their definitions. Give them 5 – 7 minutes to work on this. When they are done have the groups come together and as a large group come up with a working definition of worship.

Say something like: *Worship is both an attitude and an action. In fact, the Greek and Hebrew words translated into English as worship are equally translated into English as to bow down. Thus, worship is an action of the body and an attitude of the heart.” The attitude of worship is focused on the commandment to love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind. Our attitude in worship must begin with a love for God.*

Dividing your youth into new groups of 2 or 3 and have them work through the handout. The object of this is for the students to identify actions and attitudes associated with true worship based upon selected scripture passages. To help the students complete this handout, remind them that not every passage reflects both an action and an attitude of worship. Some passages may only demonstrate an action while others only an attitude that we must possess in order to worship the Lord.

Gather your group together. Have a member of each group share their findings. Say something like: *Worship is both an action and an attitude. There are things we do to worship the Lord but there is also a state of heart that must exist.*

Worship also takes place in a public setting and a private setting. Have your large group talk about ways that we worship the Lord in public and in private. It is important to clearly identify the Bible as our key foundation of worship. It is God's revelation of himself to us and is to be used both privately and publicly as our source for worship. Have students think through the many ways we can worship God.

Once you have developed a list, take a moment to point out to students that although simple tasks such as doing your chores are acts of worship in obedience to God, they never can take the place of the direct worship of God!

Consolidate/Debrief

As a final task have students pair off and spend a few minutes explaining to their partner why they gather for worship. This exercise is designed both to help students assimilate all of the information that has been presented in this lesson and to prepare them for doing this very thing as they share their faith with friends. Give them 5 to 7 minutes to go through this exercise. You want them to focus on the action of worship, the attitude of worship and the difference between the private and public worship of God.

When the pairs have all completed this, take a moment to get some reactions from the students about what it was like to actually explain to someone why they worship.

Conclude the lesson by taking some time to pray as a group. Pray for needs amongst the students and pray for the courage to be able to share their faith in all that they do.

Handout: Addendum I

Worship

Passage	Action	Attitude
Genesis 24:26-27		
1 Chronicles 16:29		
Psalms 66:4		
Isaiah 36:7		
Matthew 4:9		
John 4:23-24		
1 Cor. 14:25		
Revelation 19:10		

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Worship- Answer Key

Passage	Action	Attitude
Genesis 24:26-27	- With bent head	- reverence
1 Chronicles 16:29	- Giving an offering	-submission to God
Psaln 66:4	- Make songs	- Adoration
Isaiah 36:7	- Worship anywhere	- Daily worship of God
Matthew 4:9	- Bow down	- Submission
John 4:23-24	- Worship in spirit	- Worship in truth
1 Cor. 14:25	- Bow down before God	- submission
Revelation 19:10	- bow down	- witness of Jesus