

IronWorks: SWORD MASTERY
“Mastering Worship” May 8 & 13, 2009
Teacher: Roger Thompson

“True worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks.” John 4:23

Memory verse: *“Worship the Lord your God and serve him only.” Luke 4:8*

Worship is giving God what He’s worth.

What is my “Spiritual Temperament?” (taken from: Sacred Pathways, by Gary Thomas)

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| ① The Naturalist: Loving God out-of doors | Power/Transcendence |
| ② The Sensate: Loving God with the senses | Beauty/Music |
| ③ The Traditionalist: Love God with ritual and symbol | Discipline/History |
| ④ The Ascetic: Loving God in solitude and simplicity | Silence/Listening |
| ⑤ The Activist: Loving God through confrontation | Justice/Action |
| ⑥ The Caregiver: Loving God by loving others | Serving/Mercy |
| ⑦ The Enthusiast: Loving God with mystery and celebration | Joy/Inspiration |
| ⑧ The Contemplative: Loving God through meditation | Love/Intimacy |
| ⑨ The Intellectual: Loving God with the mind | Truth/Concepts/Worldview |

Caution: One man’s inspiration does not make it every man’s application.

Balancing:

- ① Every believer, no matter what his style, needs community.
- ② No “style” is free to define God through experience. Scripture reveals God’s nature.
- ③ Give grace to those who worship God best through a style difference than your own.
- ④ Give yourself permission to worship God in your “native language(s).”
- ⑤ Grow! Loving God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength requires lifelong stretching.

Small Group Discussion Questions:

- ① What 1, 2 or 3 “Spiritual Temperaments” are dominant for you?
- ② Can you describe a spiritual peak experience? What contributed to its power?
- ③ Looking back, have you felt frustrated or defective because you have tried to worship God through a means that just doesn’t “fit”? How have you adjusted?
- ④ How do I know whether I am being self-centered or discerning when I want to worship God in a way that fits my design?
- ⑤ Give praise and thanks to God for receiving us as we are.