

5. Reflect on the Eugene Peterson quote in point 2 of the sermon. How do you keep from being in league with the devil?

6. David casts his deliverance from his enemies in the light of the Exodus deliverance in verses 6-19. David enters the story of God. He sees how his life is part of God's larger story. How is your life part of God's larger story?

7. Take a look at Pastor Henry's recent post, "Off the Cutting Room Floor," (henry-williams.net) and read the rest of Psalm 18. How can you be more aware of God's work in your everyday life, even in the cutthroat, sex-saturated, violent world in which we live?

8. Looking back over this week's sermon, reading and study, what one thing is most important for you to remember and apply?

SERIES: Connect

SERMON 1: "Worship"

TEXT: Psalm 18

DATE: August 29/30, 2015

Five Why's of Worship

Christian worship is _____ God's glory with our words, our thoughts, our hearts, and our actions.

- Why do we worship?
- Why does God _____ us to worship?
- Why is worship _____ for us?
- Why were we _____ to worship?
- Why were we made in God's _____?

THREE KEY ELEMENTS OF GENUINE WORSHIP

1. An _____ of God

Psalm 18:1-6

Worship gathered _____ from our worship scattered.

Worship gathered _____ the vision for worship scattered.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Psalm 18

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. How would you explain why we worship to a ten year old?

3. How does worship gathered fuel your vision for worship scattered?

4. Worship requires a keen awareness of God. (David demonstrates this kind of awareness throughout Psalm 18.) But we are easily distracted. Even the place where we worship, the music, and the sermon can all be great distractions from worshipping God. A beautiful setting, a heart-stirring song, and a well-crafted sermon can become the focus instead of the God to whom they point. How can you keep good things like those from distracting you in worship?

The Greater Distractions:

• P _____

• M _____

• S _____

2. R _____ to God

Psalm 18:1-6

Worship is _____ to God's initiative toward us and God's initiatives around us.

"Virtually everything David noticed about God he prayed. ... The truth about God without love for God quickly becomes oppression. ... So-called theologians, whether amateur or professional, who don't pray are in league with the devil. Indeed, the devil can be defined as that species of theologian who knows everything about God, but will have nothing to do with him." (Eugene Peterson)

3. E _____ God's story.

Psalm 18:6-19

The Israelites in the Exodus story are **US**.