



A few years ago, we selected the Theme; “Worship the Lord in Spirit and Truth” from John 4:21 to study in our Vision 2000 and NAIC networks. We looked at what true worship is as our Lord Jesus taught and practiced. The important learning was that ‘worship’ as it has come to be understood in the present time does not start and end with the few minutes we spend singing, praying and praising while starting a program. We learned that the right way of worshipping God had several components to it and worship is not restricted to a gathering of people or confined to a particular place. Worship is comprised of the following elements:

- Adoration**
- Confession**
- Thanksgiving and Supplication**
- Intercession**
- Offering and self-surrender**
- Nurture through the Word**

The above list forms the Acronym : ACTION. Our worship of the Heavenly Father must result in action—in terms of witness, work and impact of our communities as Jesus’ disciples actively live out their Faith. The Bible teaches us that “faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead” (James 2:17) and that we were “created as God’s handiwork in order to do good works.” (Ephesians 2:10)

Below is Day 1 of a 31 Day scripture-based guide based on the above.

DAY 1 / A.C.T.I.O.N

ADORATION

O Lord, our Lord, How majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens!
(Psalm 8:1)

Great and marvelous are Your works, Lord God Almighty! Righteous and true are Your ways,
King of the nations! Who will not fear You, O Lord, and glorify Your name? For You alone are holy. All nations will come and worship before You, For Your righteous acts have been revealed. (Revelation 15:3-4) NASB

Pause to express your thoughts of praise and worship.

CONFESSION

The Lord is in His holy temple; The Lord is on His heavenly throne. He observes the sons of men;
His eyes examine them. (Psalm 11:4)

Ask the Spirit to search your heart and reveal any areas of unconfessed sin. Acknowledge these to the Lord and thank Him for His forgiveness.

THANKSGIVING

In Your unfailing love You have led the people You have redeemed. In Your strength You have guided them to Your holy dwelling. You brought them in and planted them in the mountain of Your inheritance—The place, O Lord, You made for Your dwelling; The sanctuary, O Lord, Your hands have established. You are the Lord our God, who brought Your people out of Egypt so that they would no longer be their slaves; You broke the bars of their yoke and enabled them to walk with heads held high. (Exodus 15:13, 17) , (Leviticus 26:13)

Pause to offer your own expressions of thanksgiving

INTERCESSION & SUPPLICATION

We must take heed to ourselves and to all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made us overseers to shepherd the church of God, which He purchased with His own blood. (Acts 20:28)

Take time to pray about one or all of these areas of concern:

Churches and Ministries

My local church

Other churches

Evangelism and discipleship ministries

Educational ministries

Special concerns

My body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in me, whom I have from God, and I am not my own. For I was bought at a price; therefore may I glorify God in my body. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Take time to pray about one or all of these areas of concern:

Growth in Christ

Greater desire to know and please Him

Greater love and commitment to Him

Grace to practice His presence

Grace to glorify Him in my life

My activities for this day

Special concerns

OFFERING & SELF SURRENDER

O Lord my God, may I fear You, walk in all Your ways, love You, and serve You with all my heart and with all my soul. I have not been made perfect, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus also laid hold of me. I do not consider myself yet to have attained it, but one thing I do: forgetting what is behind and stretching forward to what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (Deuteronomy 10:12), (Philippians 3:12-14)

Pause to add your own prayers for personal renewal.

NURTURE THROUGH THE WORD

(2 Corinthians 5:14-15) The love of Christ compels me, because I am convinced that One died for all, and therefore all died. And He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.

(Galatians 3:13) Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written: "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree."

Pause to reflect upon these biblical affirmations.

CLOSING PRAYER

(Psalm 73:25-28) Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is nothing on earth I desire besides You. My flesh and my heart may fail, But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. Those who are far from You will perish; You have cut off all who are unfaithful to You. But as for me, the nearness of God is my good. I have made the Lord God my refuge, That I may tell of all Your works. AMEN

Adapted from :
Handbook to Prayer: Praying Scripture Back to God, Ken Boa
Atlanta : Trinity House, 1997, c1993
(For use within the NAIC / Vision 2000 HOPE Networks)