



Study Guide
Numbers 7-8
Worship

Introduction

If you could go deeper in your relationship with God, what would that look like? Is there another gear for you? In Numbers, it required giving things up to express the value of God, but then came the experience of the voice of God.

Big Idea: Express the value of God. It's worth it.

1. **Worship is Sacred.** Read Numbers 7:1. To "anoint" and "consecrate" was to set apart the sanctuary elements with sacred anointing oil (Exodus 30:23-29). The priests were also anointed and "set apart" to help the people worship (Numbers 8). How can we make our worship of God sacred, rather than the usual self-gratifying thing?

2. **Worship is Shared.** Read Numbers 7:2. Notice that all the tribes and families were involved. That tells us that we exist as a group to express the value of God. How are we inconvenienced by being part of a group? What does it say about expressing the value of God by being willing to give up some of our individuality? Discuss.

3. **Worship is Sacrificial.** Read Numbers 7:3-88. List some of the things that were collected. Think of how valuable these things were for people surviving in the desert. Notice the detailed list. God sees everything we are willing to give. Read Romans 12:1-2. What does God ask us to give up and why? How does our gift express the value of God? Discuss.

4. **Worship is Access.** Read Numbers 7:89. Notice that God responds to worship by speaking face to face with Moses by the mercy seat. Notice that we have access to God through Christ (Romans 3:24b-25a; Matthew 27:51), and that we can speak as Moses did to a friend (Exodus 33:11; John 15:15b). How does that look in your life today?

Application

Consider being more intentional in what you are willing to give up for the sake of expressing the value of God. This week set apart a time and place to worship God. Slow down, open your heart to Him, ask Him to speak to you, open the Scriptures and read a passage several times. As God to give you a "word". Tell God why you are "touched" by that word. Sit quietly in a posture of rest with God. Talk freely with Him as you would with a friend.

Numbers 7-8 Worship

1 Corinthians 10:6-10

⁶ Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters as some of them were...

- Be ready for attack
- Camp facing God
- Be pure

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A. Worship is Sacred (Numbers 7:1; 8:1-26)

On the day when Moses had finished setting up the tabernacle and had anointed and consecrated it with all its furnishings and had anointed and consecrated the altar with all its utensils,

Tabernacle Anointed: Exodus 30:23-29

²³ "Take the finest spices: of liquid myrrh 500 shekels, and of sweet-smelling cinnamon half as much, that is, 250, and 250 of aromatic cane, ²⁴ and 500 of cassia, according to the shekel of the sanctuary, and a hin of olive oil. ²⁵ And you shall make of these a sacred anointing oil blended as by the perfumer; it shall be a holy anointing oil.

²⁹ You shall consecrate them so they will be most holy, and whatever touches them will be holy.

Priests Anointed: Numbers 8

⁵ And the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, ⁶ "Take the Levites from among the people of Israel and cleanse them...sprinkle the water of purification...go with a razor...wash their clothes and cleanse themselves...burnt offering...sin offering...grain offering...the people... shall lay their hands on the Levites...and Aaron shall offer...a wave offering...

Why Anoint?

Numbers 8:19

"... to do the service for the people of Israel at the tent of meeting and to make atonement for the people of Israel, that there may be no plague among the people of Israel when the people of Israel come near the sanctuary."

C.S. Lewis

"We are halfhearted creatures, fooling about with drink and sex and ambition when infinite joy is offered us, like an ignorant boy who wants to go on making mud pies in a slum because he cannot imagine what is meant by the offer of a holiday at the sea. We are far too easily pleased."

B. Worship is Shared (Numbers 7:2)

² the chiefs of Israel, heads of their fathers' houses, who were the chiefs of the tribes, who were over those who were listed, approached...

C. Worship is Sacrificial (Numbers 7:3-88)

³ and brought their offerings before the Lord, six wagons and twelve oxen, a wagon for every two of the chiefs, and for each one an ox. They brought them before the tabernacle.

Numbers 7:12-17- Day 1

He who offered his offering the first day was Nahshon ... tribe of Judah. ¹³ ... one silver plate ... 130 shekels, one silver basin of 70 shekels, ... both of them full of fine flour mixed with oil for a grain offering; ¹⁴ one golden dish of 10 shekels, full of incense; ¹⁵ one bull from the herd, one ram, one male lamb a year old, for a burnt offering; ¹⁶ one male goat for a sin offering; ¹⁷ and for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats, and five male lambs a year old.

Hebrews 6:10

"The Lord is not unjust to forget your work..."

Romans 12:1-2 (*Amplified Version*)

"Therefore I urge you, brothers and sisters, in light of the mercies of God, to present your bodies [dedicating all of yourselves, set apart] as a living sacrifice, holy and well-pleasing to God, *which is* your rational (logical, intelligent) act of worship. "

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D. Worship is Access (Numbers 7:89)

"And when Moses went into the tent of meeting to speak with the Lord, he heard the voice speaking to him from above the mercy seat that was on the ark of the testimony, from between the two cherubim; and it spoke to him."

D. Worship is Access

Romans 3:24b-25a

"...and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith."

Exodus 33:11

"Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend."

John 15:15b

"...but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you."

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