



A Worship Discussion Guide for Individuals, Groups & Families

For the week of January 22, 2023

Read the Bible passage aloud in your group meeting. This is a worship discussion guide, and our reflections and applications are grounded in Scripture. You do not need to work through the whole guide. Decide which points would be most helpful for your meeting, and use them as a starting point for your time together.

Warm Up

- **What comes to mind when you think about “the wrath of God”? Why do you have that particular association?**
- **Are people basically good, bad, or something else?**

Romans 1:18-32

Wrath Revealed

¹⁸ For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

- **What is “wrath”? What does verse 18 teach us about God’s wrath?**

¹⁹ For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. ²⁰ For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. ²¹ For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.

- **What does Paul say we can figure out by looking at the world? What cannot be known?**
- **Why does Paul say we are without excuse?**

²² Claiming to be wise, they became fools, ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

²⁴ Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, ²⁵ because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.

- **What happened to humans who rejected worship of the True God?**
- **What are some examples of idols or “functional saviors” you have been prone to exchange for the true God?**

²⁶ For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. For their women exchanged natural relations for those that are contrary to nature; ²⁷ and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in themselves the due penalty for their error.

²⁸ And since they did not see fit to acknowledge God, God gave them up to a debased mind to do what ought not to be done. ²⁹ They were filled with all manner of unrighteousness, evil, covetousness, malice. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, maliciousness. They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers, haters of God, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, ³¹ foolish, faithless, heartless, ruthless. ³² Though they know God’s righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

- **What are the consequences of false worship?**

- **Going deeper into understanding the problem with false worship...**
 - (21) **How does false worship affect our minds?**
 - (21) **How does false worship affect our hearts?**
 - (24, 26, 28) **How does false worship affect our wills?**
 - (29-31) **False worshippers conspire in a way that leads to Economic, Social, Family, Relational, and Character Disorder & Disintegration.**
 - (26) **Paul uses homosexuality as an example of “contrary to nature”, a practice rooted in worshipping the creature instead of the Creator.**
 - **This is just one example of “failure to acknowledge God” (28) that opens us up to a flood of evil. We must recognize that everyone is sexually broken, and every dishonorable passion is rooted in idolatry.**

 - **Pray together in light of this week’s passage.**
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Questions? Contact Pastor Kevin Greene, kevin@wepc.org