

**LEADERTREKS** **SERMON SERIES****MARK OF A DISCIPLE**

Disciples of Christ love God with all their heart, soul, strength, and mind.

**SCRIPTURE**

LUKE 10:25–37

**SERMON OVERVIEW**

Today we are starting the first lesson in our Devoted series and focusing Worship. Worship is a common, but sometimes vague, term. It should incorporate every aspect of who we are, so we should do our best to love God with all our heart, soul, strength, and mind.

**OPENING****WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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**GAME AND ICE BREAKER QUESTION**

- We recommend **Flip the Script** or another screen game from **Deep Discipleship Games**.
- What's the name of the pet that you have loved the most? How did you demonstrate that love?

**MESSAGE**

*Use the following teaching points and suggested illustrations as a starting point to build your message.*

**READ LUKE 10:25–28****POINT 1: Loving God drives us to worship**

We often think of singing when we think of worship. While praising the Lord through song is a great way to worship, it is only one way. There are many, many ways to worship God, but they all stem from our love for him. Loving the Lord with all we are—heart, soul, strength, and mind—drives us to worship him.

**ILLUSTRATION:** Tell a **personal story** about dating your boyfriend/girlfriend/spouse. Tell stories that show the more you began to care for this person, the more you wanted to express your feelings through different actions—buying flowers, cooking meals, writing notes, acts of service, etc. Those strong feelings you had drove you to express those feelings through actions.

Just as your love for [boyfriend/girlfriend/spouse] spurred you to express those feelings, our love for God moves us to worship him.

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**READ LUKE 10:33-34****POINT 2: Loving others is a way we show love for God**

Paul told us that the entire Old Testament can be summed up by one phrase—"love your neighbor as yourself" (Gal. 5:14). Paul's words reflect Christ's declaration that loving God and others is how we fulfill the words from the prophets (Matt. 22:36-40).

*ILLUSTRATION:* If you have a sibling, there's a good chance you *occasionally* get into disagreements and fights. There's also a good chance your parents don't like it when you fight with your siblings. This is because they greatly love you and your siblings. When you do something to hurt your brother or sister, it hurts your parents because of how much they love your siblings. And the opposite is true. When you do something for the good of your sibling, it also makes your parents feel good for the same reason—they love you and your sibling immensely. The same is true for our Heavenly Father and his people.

Because God has such an unfailing love for people, when we love others, it is one way of showing our love for God—which, as we just discussed, is an act of worship.

**READ LUKE 10:34-35****POINT 3: Love often involves sacrifice**

In this parable, the Samaritan gave of his time, energy, and money to care for the wounded man. Any degree of love will require sacrifice.

*ILLUSTRATION:* If you love your dog, you sacrifice time to take care of it—feed, water, walk, clean up after. If you love your parents, you sometimes give up what you want to do in order to do what they tell you to do. Loving marriages involve constant compromise and sacrifice.

When we love, we are willing to make sacrifices. When we love God with all we are, we surrender all we are.

**CLOSING REFLECTION**

*Use this prompt to wrap up your message and leave your students with a challenge to apply.*

- In what way(s) do you most often worship God?
- What is one new way you could express your love for God?

## GROUP DISCUSSION

*Pick a few questions from below to discuss. Close with prayer.*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Share about a time you got help from someone you didn't expect.
- What would people say you love based on your actions and the way you spend your time and money?
- Define worship in your own words.
- Why does God want us to love him with all our hearts, souls, strength, and minds?
- How is loving God and other people a type of worship?
- How do you think personal sacrifices can be a way of worshiping the Lord?
- How can you let your worship of God drive the way you live?
- In what areas of your life is it easy to worship God? In what areas is it hard to worship God?

## APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- What might it look like for you to love and worship God with everything you have?
- How can you grow in your worship of God this week? Think specifically about how you can love and worship God with your heart, your soul, your strength, and your mind.

## PRAYER

Close by praying or invite someone to pray for your group.  
*Use this space to keep track of any prayer requests.*

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