

“Stacking Stones” | Worship as lifestyle

GETTING STARTED: What imagery comes to mind when you hear the word, “altar?” When and where have you interacted with an altar?

EXPLORE THE TOPIC:

1. Read Genesis 8:18-21. What do we learn about this first altar in the Bible? What is significant about the timing of this altar?
2. What is meant by the idea that “worship is a lifestyle?” How is this different than “worship as a destination?”
3. Genesis 12:4-7 gives the account of Abram’s first recorded altar. What responsibilities in his life could have come between him and the priority of worship (consider who he was traveling with – family, animals, etc.)? How was he able to push past those and still build the altar?
4. What responsibilities compete for worship as a priority in our lives? How have you seen these responsibilities change over the course of your life? How have you seen the need for worship remain constant despite those changes?
5. King Solomon built the temple that King David (his father) envisioned as a central sanctuary for God. Prior to the construction of the temple, outdoor altars were the closest thing to a physical location for worship. How does this concept help reinforce that worship should exist as a “lifestyle” rather than a “destination?”
6. Read Genesis 12:8. Consider that, “To call on the name of the Lord” means to turn to the one who is the sole focus of all life. It is to deny any other power and to “have no other gods” before God. Where do people tend to turn to in times of need?
7. Read the brief account of Abraham (formerly Abram) in

Hebrews 11:8-10. How does this suggest that Abram worshiped “along the way?” Where did Abram find strength for the peaks and valleys of his life?

8. What are some of the major peaks and valleys that you’ve encountered in your life? How did these situations impact your ability to worship?
9. Identify one daily routine in your life that you couldn’t imagine overlooking for a single day. How can a person develop worship as such an integral part of life?

APPLY THE TRUTH:

When Abram “called on the name of the Lord” (above), he was proclaiming that he had resolved to turn to no one else besides God. Use the following passages as expressions of worship in your life this week:

- Psalm 105:1
- Psalm 116:1-5
- Acts 4:12

PRAY

Use this simple prayer during those “in-between” moments of your life this week:

“Lord, I cling to you! You are the only thing worthy of worship in my life. You are present at all times – in the peaks and valleys of my daily life! Please help me to make worship part of my daily life and not simply an occasional destination.”

NOTES:
