

# Changing the Way You Think:

## *The Spiritual Service of Worship*

### Romans 12:1

Therefore I urge you, brothers *and sisters*, by the mercies of God, to **present** your bodies as a **living** and **holy sacrifice**, acceptable to God, *which is your spiritual service of worship.*

*Present*

*Living*

*Holy*

*Sacrifice*

## “Present”

“We long to find something greater than ourselves. It is how we are wired. We will give our very being to find it, touch it, feel it, taste it and experience it. We will give our time, talent, and treasure – our blood, sweat, and tears. **This is great worship for not so great gods.**” – Bill Olson

### Romans 1:21-23

They knew God, **but they wouldn't worship him as God or even give him thanks.** And they began to think up foolish ideas of what God was like. As a result, their minds became dark and confused. Claiming to be wise, they instead became utter fools. And **instead of worshiping the glorious, ever-living God, they worshiped idols made to look like mere people...**

- **Implies an Intentionality**

### Romans 6:13, 19

**Present yourselves to God as those who are alive from the dead, and your body's parts as instruments of righteousness for God...** so now present your body's parts as slaves to righteousness, **resulting in sanctification.**

- **Not Drive by Emotion, but the Desire to Please God**

Worship has been misunderstood as something that arises from a feeling which 'comes upon you,' but it is vital that we understand that **it is rooted in a conscious act of the will, to serve and obey the Lord Jesus Christ.** – Graham Kendrick

- People get put off by being “pushed” or challenged to move beyond their comfort in American worship services...
  - Raise or Clap your hands...
  - Kneel or “Prostrate” Oneself...
  - Dance
- Awkward, Embarrassed, Spectacle...
- **Forget about all that for now...** don't try to manufacture emotions or create a display
- **For Now, Simply Focus on Intentionally Presenting Yourself as a Thankful Participant in Declaring the Goodness and Greatness of God.**

- **10,000 Reasons:** “Bless the Lord Oh My Soul, Worship His Holy Name...”

**Psalm 103:1-5**

Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, worship his holy name.

Let all that I am praise the Lord;

may I never forget the good things he does for me.

He forgives all my sins

and heals all my diseases.

He redeems me from death

and crowns me with love and tender mercies.

He fills my life with good things.