

WEEK 3

MIDDLE SCHOOL DISCUSSION GUIDE

IMAGE BEARER

THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

Worship is more than singing; it's what shapes us.
Everyone worships something.

BIBLE

John 4:23-24

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Everyone worships something—whatever you focus on most shapes who you become. God created you to worship Him in spirit and truth, not just with songs but with your whole life. What you worship will shape your identity.

Let's Break the Ice // [Optional: Discipleship Moment Follow Up]:

- For last week's discipleship moment, we challenged each other to pray about an area where we hope to see peace and then to be a peacemaker there. How did it go?
- What's one thing you care a lot about right now? How can you or someone else tell that it matters to you?

Bible Study:

- Read Together: As a group, read John 4:19-24 NIV
 - Telos Bible Page Numbers: John 4:19-24 (pg 1037)

Discussion Questions:

- Jesus says that worshipers worship in spirit and in truth. What do you think that means?
- Everyone worships something. What are some things people your age are tempted to give their attention to?
- Why do you think worship shapes who we become? Even outside of church?
- How can you tell if something has taken the place of God in your life, even if you didn't mean for it to do that?

Make it Real:

- What's one thing you've been focusing on too much that might be shaping your identity in the wrong way?
- What's one way you want to shift your focus this week to worship God with your everyday life?

💡 Leader Cheat Sheet:

Worshipping God in Spirit and in Truth

- **To worship in *spirit* means** giving God your *whole heart*, not just going through the motions. It's about being real with God—connecting with Him deeply, not just pretending or performing.
- **To worship in *truth* means** focusing on *who God really is*, not just how we feel in the moment. It's about worshiping based on what's true in the Bible, even when life is confusing or hard.
- **Simple summary:**
Worshipping in spirit and truth means being real with God and rooted in who He really is.

Prayer

Share Requests:

- Ask for any prayer requests or praises to celebrate together.

Group Prayer:

- Ask God to reveal what is truly shaping our lives. Show us what we've been focusing on too much, and teach us how to worship Him, not just with songs, but with our hearts, choices, and attention.

(GROW DEEPER - OPTIONAL) Discipleship Moment:

Choose What You Worship: This week, choose one thing that you usually give too much time to. Make a plan to cut back on that thing and replace it with time with God. For example, you might give up YouTube for the week, or instead of playing video games for an hour, spend 30 minutes with God first and then spend the remaining 30 minutes playing video games.

Partner Check-In: Pair students up and have them commit to checking in with their partner either sometime during the week or during your next gathering.