

Jack Hayford Q&A with Robert Morris

Focus As we worship God and behold His glory, He will make Himself real *to* us so He can become real *through* us.

Fun What is your New Year's resolution for this year? (or) How do you usually celebrate bringing in the new year?

Review Key Scripture: Revelation 4:11

1. Our time on earth is limited. Value others and live with eternity in mind. In the interview with Pastor Robert Morris and Pastor Jack Hayford, Pastor Jack shared how he had to say goodbye to his wife, Anna, after being married for 62 years. He doesn't say she died but that she went home. If we've accepted Jesus as our savior, we will all experience a day when we leave this earth and go to heaven. With that in mind, it is important to spend the life we have living for Jesus and loving others.

2. Worship is a key to life.

When asked about worship, Pastor Jack shared that it has been the key to connecting with God and hearing from Him. When you worship something, you ascribe worth to it. When we worship God, He will see His glory. It is true publicly and privately. Holiness is a byproduct of worship. The more you worship God, the more His character will be formed in you, and your life will radiate with His presence. People will notice the difference in your life when you worship.

3. God wants to make Himself real *to* you, so He can become real *through* you.

In Revelation 4, where the throne room of God is described, the Holy Spirit and the fullness of God is shown. The worship around the throne is an awareness of the completion of God's entire personhood. If we want to know how God would

act on earth, look at Jesus. The way Jesus related to people, spoke to them, and had compassion for them is the representation of God on earth. As you worship Him and set your eyes on Him, He will give you His perspective of life and of others. Each person is special to God. Every person that walks the face of the earth displays God's creative genius. When we know God, we can reveal Him to others.

Group Dynamics Idea As Pastor Jack shared about his wife and about God's heart for others, it reminds us how valuable each person is. As a group leader, take time to really get to know each person in your group individually. As you do, ask God to show you the unique gifts and qualities He has given them. Ask God to give you His heart and His perspective for each and every one of them.

Discuss

- 1. Pastor Jack shared about how he met his wife and about the time he had to say goodbye to her. What investments do you want to make in people during your time on earth?
- 2. After watching the interview with Pastor Jack, what were the things that stood out to you the most about his life or his heart for God through worship? In what ways did it cause you to reflect on your own life? How would you want to do things differently?
- 3. Worship is described as giving worth to something. What are some counterfeit things the world tries to get us to "ascribe worth to" other than God?
- 4. Why is it important to worship both corporately and also privately? Have you had an experience in worship where you heard God speak to your heart? If you're comfortable, share.
- 5. Revelation 4 describes the throne room where the fullness of God's personhood is revealed and He is worshipped. Take a moment to go around the group and let everyone describe one aspect of God they love (e.g., His faithfulness, His love).

6. How does spending time in God's presence give us a better perspective of others? Has God ever changed your perspective of a situation or of a person after you spent time worshipping Him?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Value others and live with eternity in mind.
- Worship is a key to life.
- God wants to make Himself real to you, so He can become real through you.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, we worship You! You are worthy of all glory, honor, and praise! We lift our eyes to You and turn our hearts to You. Please give us Your heart and Your perspective of others. In Jesus' name, Amen.

New Leader Tip The new year is a great time to set new vision and new goals. Take time to pray and ask God to give you His vision and goals for your group for the upcoming year. Write down what you hear or what you feel He puts in your heart. Writing down the vision and goals for your group this year will help you develop strategies to achieve them.