

His Entryway

Focus All leaders need to know how to lead people in and lead people out. In David's time, he led the people to the house of God to worship before they went out to war. After a battle was lost, they came in to repent in God's presence. When the battle was victorious, they came in and rejoiced in God's presence. If the battle was lengthy, they came in to be refreshed by God's presence. Worship was an entryway into God's presence then, and it is an entryway into God's presence today.

Fun If you could meet any Bible character, who would it be? Why?

Review Key Scriptures: 1 Kings 3; 1 Samuel 18

1. Worship brings God's presence into our lives.

David wrote Psalms, which are songs to the Lord. He knew how to enter God's presence. We enter God's presence when we worship (1 Samuel 18:12, 14).

2. Worship brings God's fear into our lives.

God's presence brings the fear of the Lord on our enemy: Satan and his demonic spirits. We are in a battle, but when we worship, we bring the presence of God into the battle and the enemy has no choice but to flee.

3. Worship brings God's <u>wisdom</u> into our lives.

The Queen of Sheba came to test Solomon's wisdom and see his wealth (2 Chronicles 9:1). Solomon gained wisdom from being in the presence of God. When we live in His presence, He is right there to give us the answers to our questions.

Group Dynamics Idea As the holidays approach, consider having your group provide a Thanksgiving meal to an elderly couple or bless a single mom with a gift card at Christmas.

Discuss

- 1. Explain what this statement means: "If we do not come **into** the presence of God, we cannot **go out with** the presence of God."
- 2. All leaders have to know how to lead people in and lead people out. Read 1 Kings 3:7; Numbers 27:16–17; and Joshua 14:11. How do these Scriptures express this?
- 3. King David knew how to enter into God's presence. How can we enter into God's presence? How important is it to worship more than once a week?
- 4. Why was Saul afraid of David (1 Samuel 18:12)? How does this verse apply to the spiritual battles we face?
- 5. Read 2 Chronicles 9:4. Then list what the Queen of Sheba noticed about the household of King Solomon. What was her reaction?
- 6. Ezekiel 46:9 is not just talking about traffic patterns but demonstrating how worshipping God changes and redirects us. Give some examples of how we are changed by worship.

Take Home

As we conclude, remember the following:

- Worship takes us into God's presence.
- When we worship, God's presence stays with us.
- People notice God's presence in us.
- Worship brings wisdom and the fear of God.
- Satan fears God's presence.
- Worship changes things!

Prayer

Lord, we worship You as our heavenly Father, Almighty God and the King of Kings. We thank You that when we come to You in worship, Your presence stays with us. We have no need to fear any person or adversary. In Jesus' name. Amen.

New Leader Tip A good leader embodies good character—honesty, courage, integrity, and honor. No matter where we are in our leadership, we all need to be open to growth in this area.