

Worship & Celebration

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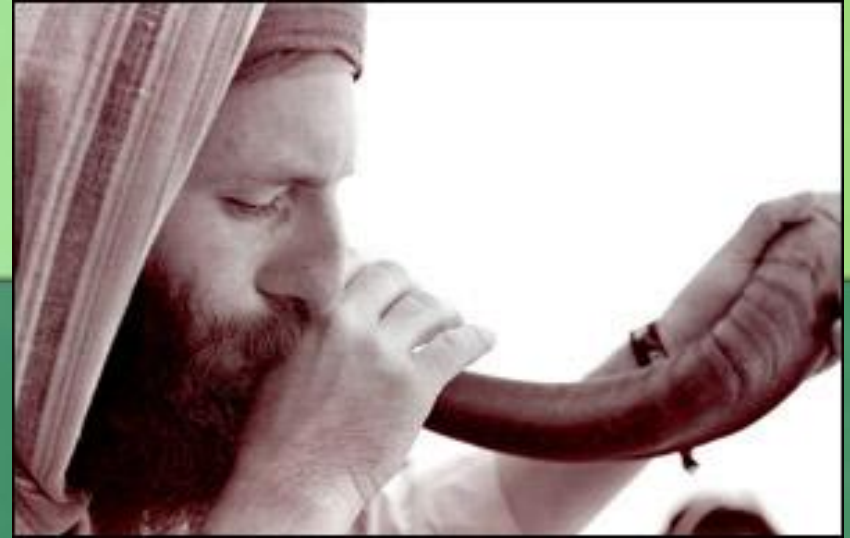
The Call to Worship



“Come, let us bow down
in worship,
let us kneel before the
LORD our Maker;
for He is our God
and we are the people
of His pasture,
the flock
under His care.”

Psalm 95:6-7 (NIV)

The Call to Worship



“Therefore, there can only be one call to worship, and this comes at conversion, when in complete repentance we admit to worshiping falsely, trapped by the inversion and enslaved to false gods before whom we have been dying sacrifices. This call to true worship comes but once, not every Sunday, in spite of the repeated calls to worship that begin most liturgies and orders of worship. These should not be labeled calls to worship but calls to *continuation* of worship. We do not go to church to worship, but, already at worship, we join our brothers and sisters in continuing those actions that should have been going on--privately, familially, or even corporately--all week long.”

- Harold Best

Presentation Outline



**Definitions
of Worship**

**Biblical
Paradigm
for Worship**

**Practical
Steps in
Worship**

**The Lover
and
the Beloved**

Definitions of Worship

“(Fresh new worship music) is not the main thing. It’s not the objective or goal. The heart of what we bring, is always the main thing... If you’re giving Him your heart, and it’s coming out of a life of worship, it will be what He delights in and requires.”

- Matt Redman



Definitions of Worship



The Bible describes worship in physical terms. The root meaning for the Hebrew word we translate worship is "to prostrate." The word bless literally means "to kneel." Thanksgiving refers to "an extension of the hand." Throughout Scripture we find a variety of physical postures in connection with worship: lying prostrate, standing, kneeling, lifting the hands, clapping the hands, lifting the head, bowing the head, dancing, and wearing sackcloth and ashes. The point is that we are to offer God our bodies as well as all the rest of our being. Worship is appropriately physical. - Richard J. Foster

Definitions of Worship

Worship is the highest elevation of the spirit, and yet the lowliest prostration of the soul.

- Charles H. Spurgeon



Definitions of Worship



Worship is the intentional attitudes and actions of focusing on God. - Byron Spradlin

Definitions of Worship

"Worship is the submission of all our nature to God. It is the quickening of conscience by his holiness; the nourishment of mind with his truth; the purifying of imagination by his beauty; the opening of the heart to his love; the surrender of will to his purpose - and all of this gathered up in adoration."

- William Temple



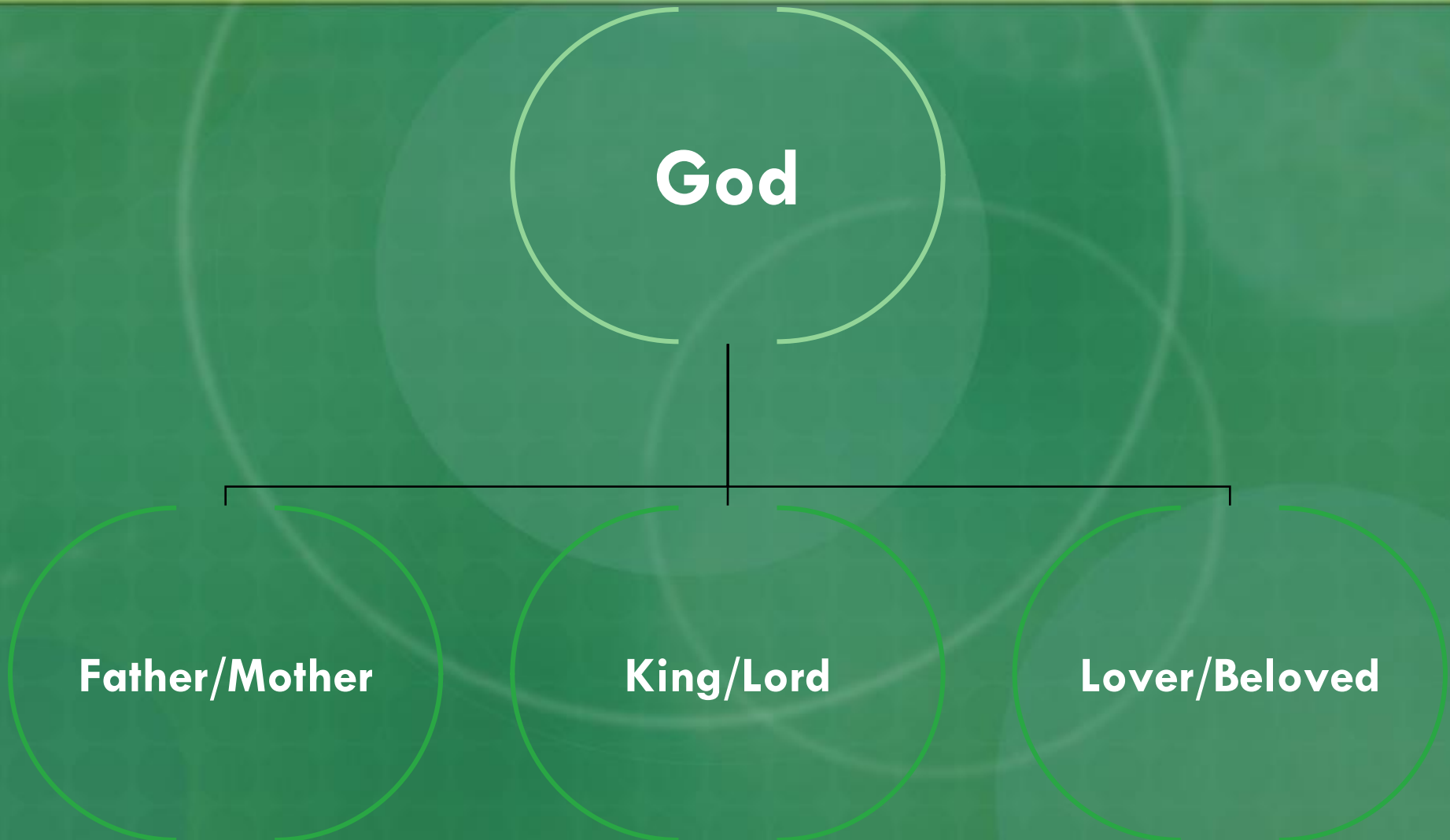
Definitions of Worship



“Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.”

- Jesus (John 4:23-24)

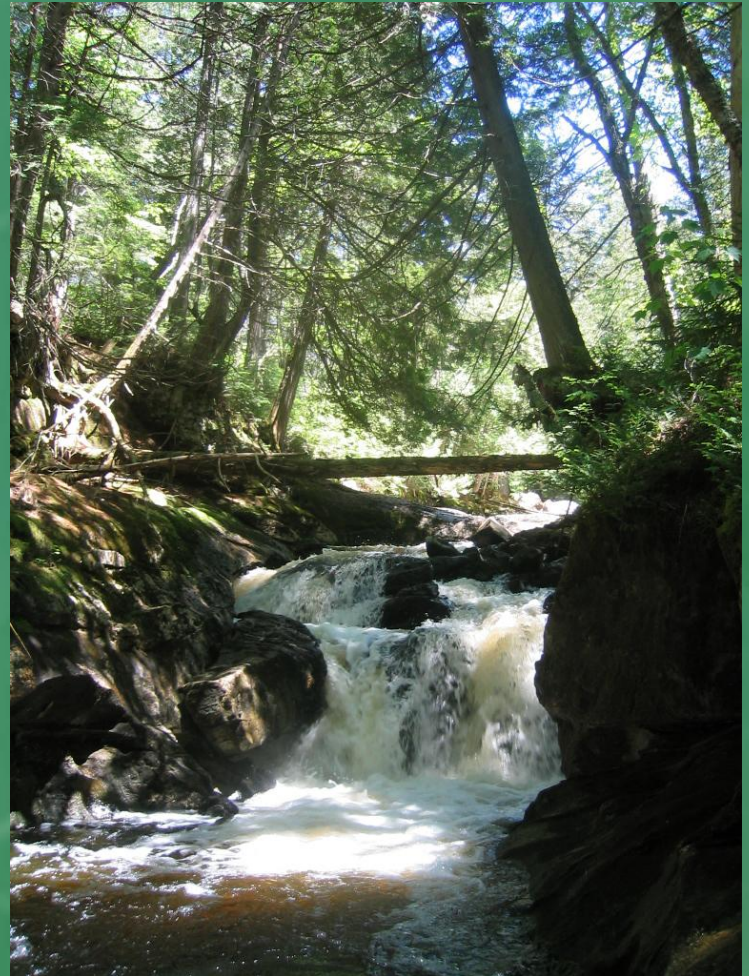
A Biblical Paradigm for Worship



A Biblical Paradigm for Worship

**"In that day,"
declares the LORD,
"you will call me 'my
husband';
you will no longer call me
'my master.**

- Hosea 2:16



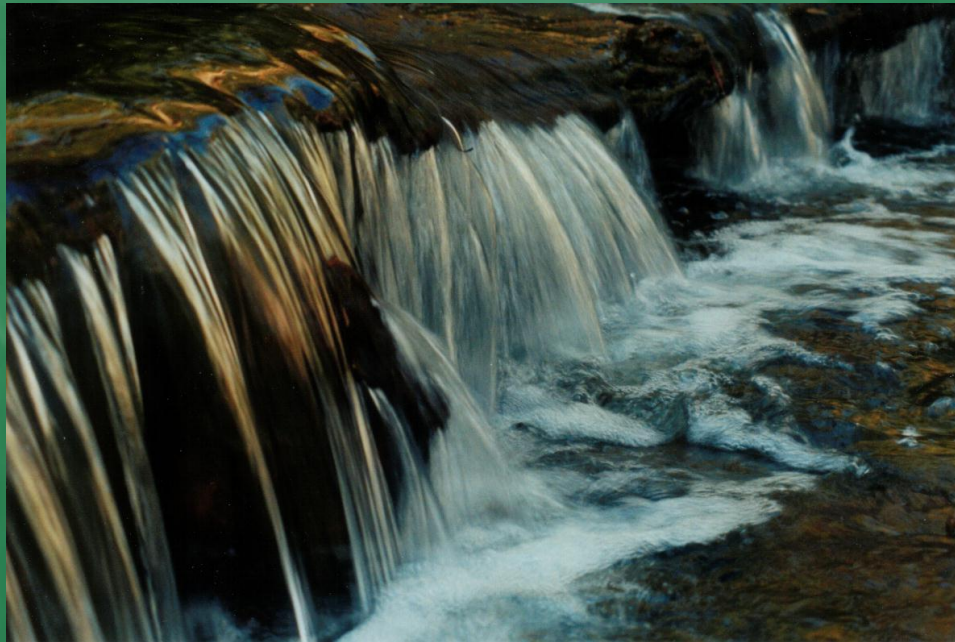
A Biblical Paradigm for Worship



**“I will betroth you to me
forever;
I will betroth you in
righteousness and justice,
in love and compassion.
I will betroth you in
faithfulness,
and you will acknowledge
the LORD.”
- Hosea 2:19-20**

A Biblical Paradigm for Worship

**“and the earth will respond to the grain, the new wine and oil,
and they will respond to Jezreel. I will plant her for myself in the
land; I will show my love to the one I called 'Not my loved one.'
I will say to those called 'Not my people,' 'You are my people';
and they will say, 'You are my God.' “ - Hosea 2:22-23**



The Lover and the Beloved



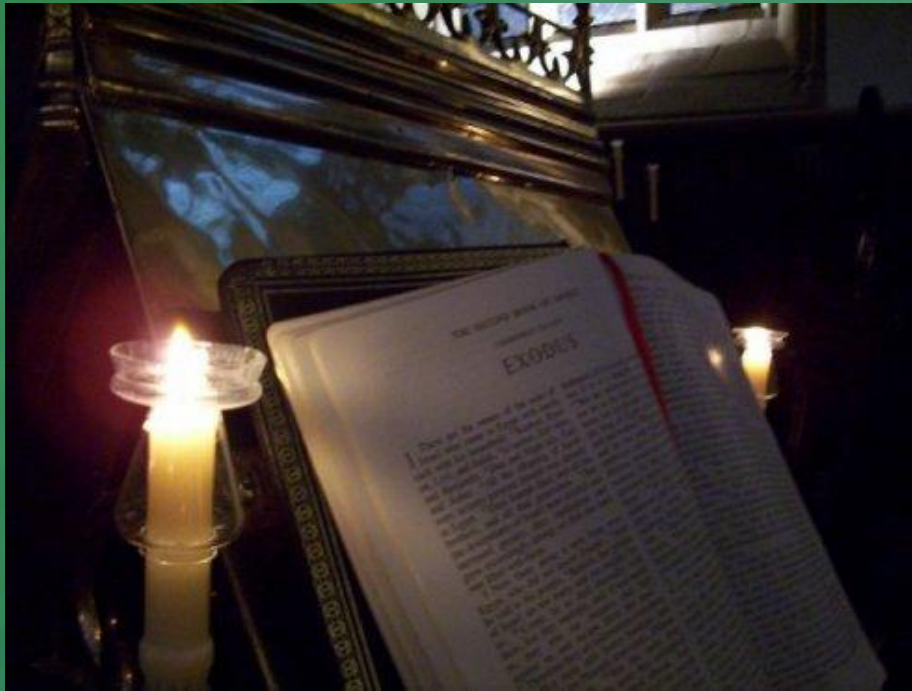
Desire

You have made us
for yourself, and
our heart is
restless until it
rests in you.

– St. Augustine



Desire



“Let him kiss me with
the kisses of his
mouth—
for your love is
more delightful than
wine.”

- Song of Songs 1:2

Dialogue

To worship in spirit
is to draw near to
God with an
undivided heart.

- Erwin Lutzer



Dialogue



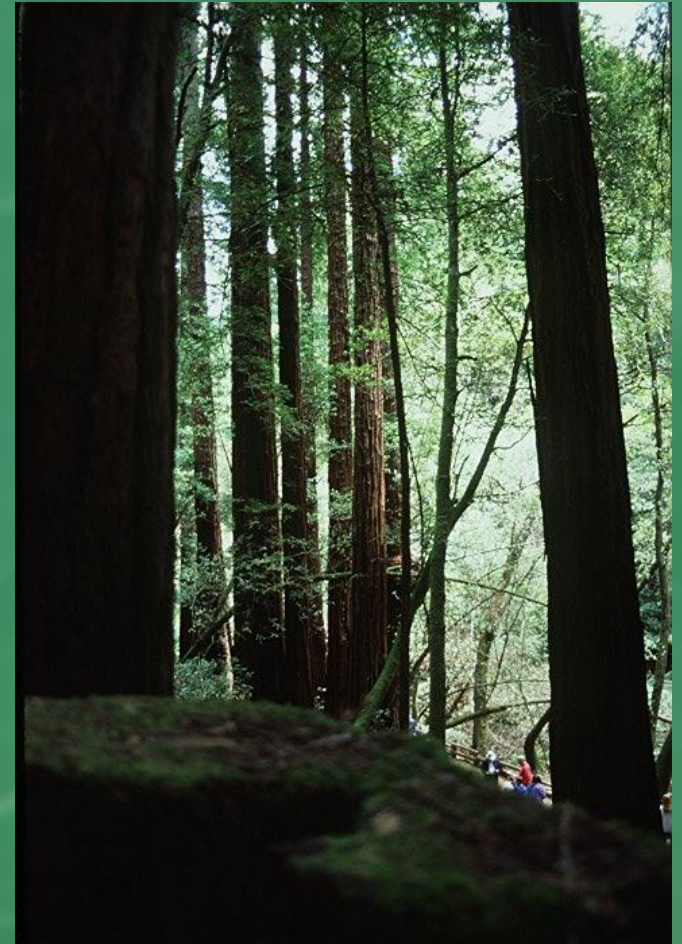
“My dove in the clefts of the
rock, in the hiding places on
the mountainside,
show me your face, let me
hear your voice; for your
voice is sweet,
and your face is lovely.”

- Song of Songs 2:14

Divine Union

Our heavenly Father
loves us with an
extravagant
abandon. Passionate,
undignified worship is
our only reasonable
response.

- Matt Redman



Divine Union



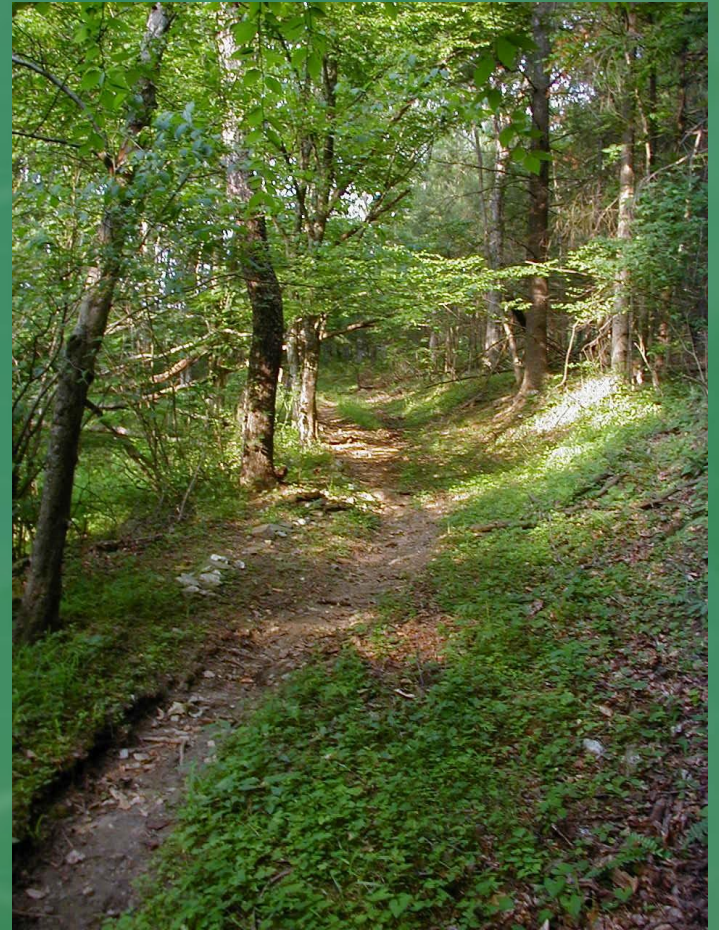
“I have come into my
garden, my sister, my bride;
I have gathered my
myrrh with my spice.
I have eaten my
honeycomb and my honey;
I have drunk my wine
and my milk. “

- Song of Songs 5:1

Afterglow

Worship does not
satisfy our hunger
for God - it whets
our appetite.

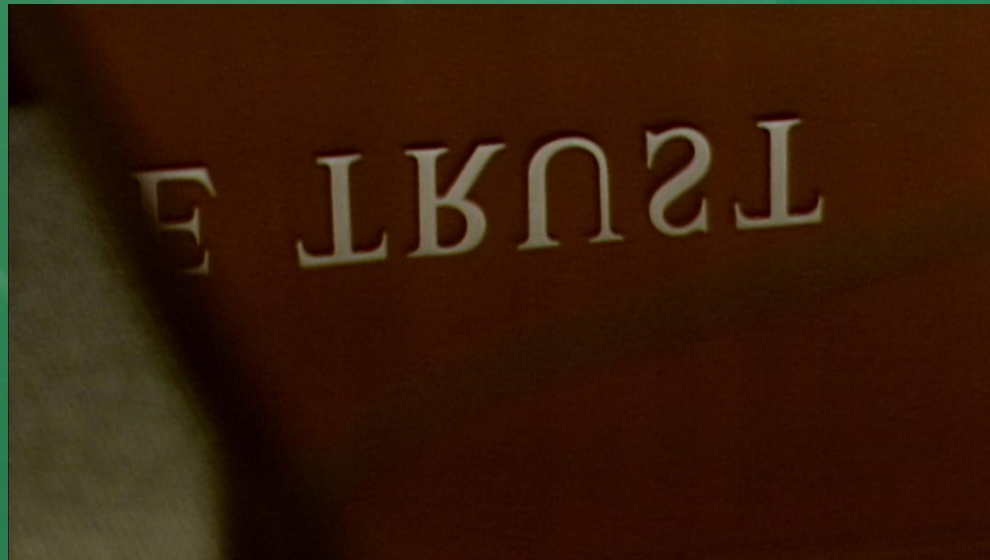
- Eugene Peterson



Afterglow

“I opened for my lover, but my lover had left; he was gone. My heart sank at his departure. I looked for him but did not find him. I called him but he did not answer.”

- Song of Songs 5:6



The Lover and the Beloved



Practical Steps in Worship

- Regain the practice of awe and wonder.
- Center worship from the heart.
- Be willing to be gathered into communal worship.
- Practice worship.
- Learn to celebrate.
- Journal and journey in thanksgiving.
- Discover the joy of abandonment to Divine providence.

Worship – The Central Act of Life

A private
relationship of
worshiping God is
the greatest
essential element
of spiritual fitness.

- Oswald Chambers



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Habits of the Heart #7- Worship and Celebration

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