

## **What Do You Bring to Worship?**

Josh Blackmer

We bring a lot of stuff to worship. Some of it gets left in the pews: Bibles, toys, assorted pillows, footstools, snacks/candy, sweaters and checkbooks, to name a few. Some of it we shouldn't bring: This short read isn't about that. It is about what we must bring for our worship to be acceptable.

**We need to bring the right heart.** Jesus admonished some saying that their worship was vain. "You hypocrites, rightly did Isaiah prophesy of you: 'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far away from Me. But in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men'" (Matthew 15:7-9). We need to come to worship God with the right heart. These people's worship was not acceptable, not because their hearts didn't want to worship, but because their hearts were out of line in other areas in life. In this case, they were not taking care of their parents.

**We need to bring the right attitude.** A parable is told about the attitudes of two men approaching God, the Pharisee and the tax collector (Luke 18:9-14). The Pharisee talked about how great he was as though God deserved to have him. The other said, "Have mercy on me, a sinner." Jesus said, "I tell you; this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 18:14). We must make sure that humility and reverence are characteristics we strive for in our approach to a Holy God.

**We need to bring the right desire.** "With all my heart I have sought You" (Psalms 119:10). Have you ever been in the room with someone, and you know they didn't want to be there? How did that feel? Do you think God notices? Worship is not like a participation grade. As long as I show up, I can get full credit. That's not really how it works. Are we worshipping if our mouths and hearts aren't moving in song (Ephesians 5:19)? To be real, not many people are waking up on Sunday morning shouting, "Hallelujah, praise Jesus!" However, what may start as obligation can grow into desire with maturity.

**A few things we shouldn't bring.** An overcritical attitude that complains about those that serve, how people dress, etc. Politics or pet issues have no place in worship. These are petty, insignificant things compared to worshipping the Creator of the UNIVERSE, just saying. Hypocrisy should be checked at the door. We need to live Monday through Saturday in a way that doesn't make Sunday feel awkward. These are things that are more disruptive to worship than a cell phone. Coming to God ready to worship has much more to do with our hearts than our clothing ever does.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

May 26, 2019

### **WELCOME!**

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

---

**All the churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

---

### **Today's Sermon: *Lest We Forget***

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)

[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org) (Antioch Initiative)

Find us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](https://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)

**Scripture: Luke 22:7-20**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** May 29<sup>th</sup>, Arthur or Paul will be continuing with our study of Ephesians, possibly concluding the book. We are thinking about studying Galatians next.
- **Pancake Breakfast-** Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>. **Volunteers and donations needed!** This is an outreach activity which will take place here at the building.
- **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Regional Singing-** the next one will be June 30<sup>th</sup> at Endwell.
- **Sojourners** here- July 8-18. We are planning a Gospel tent meeting in River Front Park during this time (12-14).
- **Athens Street Fair-** July 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>. **Volunteers needed** to help with our church booth during this event. This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> year to participate.
- **VBS –** August 10<sup>th</sup> here at the building with volunteers from Kittanning and Camp Hill churches. **We will need cookies, drinks and snacks! Volunteers to help the day go smoothly are always welcome.**
- **Next Potluck: Next Sunday!** June 16<sup>th</sup>.



### NEWS

- **Men's Revival-Putting "man" Back in the Hood will take place on Saturday here at the building. 8:30-2:30. We are serving a light breakfast buffet and lunch as well as coffee and snacks throughout the day. Please see where you can help.**
- **Pounding the Ground for Ultrasound** took place yesterday. Arthur and Sandy participated to support this good cause in the Valley Cities area.
- **Potluck is a bit iffy at this point due to sickness. At any rate, plan to have a piece of cake to honor Sam's graduation from Corning two weeks ago. Also, have a look at the housewarming gift we will be presenting to Jackie, who is too ill to be here today.**

## PRAYERS

- **Please pray for the men's retreat this Saturday. Pray for the men who will be speaking and for the encouragement of all the Christian men who will be attending as well as impacting those men who will be visiting from the local area.**
- **Darlene** still has bronchitis. Pray she can start to feel better after this long illness.
- **Ted** is still coughing and not feeling back to normal. Pray that he can start recovering.
- **Jackie** is still quite ill with a cough and very painful arthritis. She made another trip to the ER yesterday and will be having tests. She still needs our prayers.
- Pray for **Mark Elsbree**, who needs a kidney donor soon.
- Pray for **Marilynn Patrick** who is battling metastatic colon cancer. Also pray for her family.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** –stage 4 lung cancer. Lori is very proactive in the battle to stay healthy and her latest MRI showed no new growth and smaller lymph nodes.
- **Erin Beiber** - metastatic breast cancer.
- Remember to pray for **Ronnie Jones** (stroke) and **Don Myers** (back pain). They both need our prayers.
- Pray for our **Bible classes**, both Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.