**Languages of Worship**

In search of meaningful praise & worship

Philip Nunn, April 2013

**Discussion on worship:** Jesus and the Samaritan woman, Jn 4:20-24



**The basic components of Praise and Worship**

* 1. Object of worship
  2. Worshiper
  3. Expressing of worship
  4. Content of worship
  5. Eating & digesting the content

**The Holy Spirit is involved in the whole process: John 16:13-15**

**1. Object of worship**

Father, Son, Triune God. The Father ‘seeks’ worshipers. He wants them!

Father and Son have sent the HS to motivate worship

**2. Worshiper**

1. awe : wow! – His greatness, goodness...
2. Surrender : My smallness in comparison...
3. Gratitude : My indebtedness, unworthiness...
4. Joy : Thankfulness, happy to be here...
5. Intimacy : Closeness, acceptance, friendship...

* As we express these, we praise and worship.

**3. Expressing of worship**

Ways in which a worshiper may give expression to his or her worship.

1. Prayer (my own, or using the words of another)
2. Appropriate songs (content and music stile which fit the person)
3. Movement (kneel, stand, use of hands, clap, dance?)
4. Silence (awe, enjoyment, happily still in His presence…)
5. Obedience: acts of worship, lifestyle…

Question: What is your preferred ‘method’?

**4. Content of worship**

The reason or fuel for worship.

* Knowledge of the Father and the Son (not the HS)
* Who the Father/Son ‘is’
* What the Father/Son ‘do - have done – will do’

**5. Eating & digesting and the content**

Different ways in which the content of worship may reach the mind and stir the heart of a worshiper.

Question: What can we do to encourage/enrich that connection between then worshiper and the content?

**Six languages of Praise and Worship**

* What best inspires/motivates/encourages you worship?
* What can be done so that the truth about who God is and what He has done most strongly touches your heart/soul?

1. **Reading Scripture** – rejoice in truths
2. **Repetition** - of a song or a sentence – until ‘the penny drops’
3. **Seeing something** – pictures, nature, a cross, a crown of thorns…
4. **Prayer of another** - poetry, good word choice that ‘clicks’

Example: ‘When I survey the wondrous cross’ - Isaac Watts, 1707 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tkx8WAycYAc>

1. **Listen to and sing songs** – songs that ‘click’ with you

Example: ‘Lord, I need you’: Chris Tomlin – with pictures

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_rR_Rdb1CTE>

1. **Doing something** – eating/drinking/stand/kneel/use of hands/eyes

**Conclusion**

* Be willing to **experiment** and enrich my/our expression of worship.
* Be me **more considerate** towards the ‘needs’ of others
* What can I do to try to enrich my personal praise and worship?

Source: www.philipnunn.com