

WORSHIP {fully}



“You have a water ministry?” Pastor Chevo asked his two new American friends. “We have a water ministry too!” Every day during the dry season, members of Chevo’s rural Salvadoran church used to tie water containers to their bicycles and pedaled them to a water-scarce village five miles away.

Their church building was one year old, and their water ministry was two. Living Water was there to help him more effectively reach out to his neighbors with clean water in Jesus’ name.

One of the American pastors was dumbfounded by Chevo, “How did you decide to start a water ministry before you even had a place to worship...” The word “worship” had not left his lips before it dawned on us that for Chevo, his water ministry was an act of worship. His church plant, our help, time spent in peoples’ homes, the church daycare, their songs, vigils, smiles, prayers, even Sunday services—all worship.

“Worship” derives from Old-English words meaning “worth-ship.” What we give worth to is what we worship: possessions, God, shopping, money, Jesus. Advent is a time to consciously direct our worship at Jesus, seeing him in everyone and worshipping him everywhere. How can you worship more fully this Christmas?

DISCUSSION:

- In the Exodus story, every time God says, “Let my people go” it’s followed by “so that they may worship me.” Is our culture captive to things that come between us and full worship? What are those things?
- “Even while these people were worshipping the LORD, they were serving their idols.” (2 Kings 17:41) Does that passage apply only to ancient polytheists?
- In the weeks before Christmas, is it easier to worship God or more difficult?
- If extra-terrestrials landed in our homes on Christmas morning, what would they see as having “worth-ship” to us?
- “God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24) What does that mean?
- In what specific ways do you find it easy to worship to God?
- What specific thing can you do during the coming week to prepare for the birth of Christ by worshipping more fully? Share it with a friend. Ask each other how it went next week.
- Watch the video *Water, Gospel, Christmas* at www.water.cc/news/videos. Pray.

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www.water.cc/adventconspiracy ✨ www.adventconspiracy.org

