

Throughlines

GOD WORSHIPPING

God Worshipping

Learners extend, both in daily tasks and in deliberate times of praise, their words, actions, talents, and thoughts in awe and celebration of God who is worthy.

Greeting

Invite the whole group into a circle. Introduce the definition of God Worshipping (above). For younger learners, the definition can be shortened to, "I can love and celebrate God with my words, actions, talents, and thoughts." Invite students to think of examples of God Worshipping, beyond the activities we associate with church or devotional times (i.e., singing worship songs, praying, reading the Bible, etc.), thinking through the categories from the definition: words, actions, talents, and thoughts.

Moving by turns, have learners greet each other by name ("Good morning [name]! We're glad you're here!") and then share a way they enjoy worshipping God, beyond a church service kind of context.

Students may benefit from an example:

- In a scene from *Chariots of Fire*, Olympic runner Eric Liddel says: "I believe God made me for a purpose, but He also made me fast. And when I run, I feel His pleasure." He gives us an example of running as God Worshipping.
- Brother Lawrence, a monk who lived in the 17th century, is known for his focus on the presence of God while doing small chores, like peeling potatoes, and seeing those chores as an act of worship to God.
- Mother Teresa is known for the quote, "Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." Small things with great love is an example of God worshipping in the mundane.

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Initiative: Praise Portraits

Provide paper, colored pencils/markers, and other drawing tools. Ask learners to think about God's character (love, holiness, faithfulness, power, etc.) and create a "portrait" of God—not necessarily a literal image, but a creative representation using words, symbols, colors, or shapes that show who God is to them.

After 10–15 minutes, invite volunteers to share their portraits and explain their choices. Invite learners to share how the attributes in their Praise Portraits inspire worship and how recognizing God's character transforms our daily lives and relationship with Him.

For younger groups, simplify by focusing on one attribute (like love or mercy). For older groups, make it deeper by including Scripture references in the portraits.

For more reflection on the activity, consider some of the questions below:

- How did creating a visual help you connect with God in a new way?
- Which portrait or description shared by others stood out to you? Why?
- What emotions or thoughts did this activity bring up about your relationship with God?
- Is there a particular Scripture that comes to mind as you reflect on God's character?

