

The 12th Gate

Goal

To encourage us to start seeing worship as the key to establishing God's kingdom on Earth and seeing God move in our lives.

Conversation Starters

- What's your favorite number? Why?
- Play three rounds of this game — have each person write down 12 items from each category. For each unique answer that no other person has, you receive one point. The person with the most points after three rounds wins! The categories are:
 - Fruits
 - Colors
 - Books of the Bible
- What's your favorite worship song?

Review

Last week:

Start by checking on how group members did last week with getting back in the gate of **attention** after discussing the sermon "Paying Attention"

- Did you identify an area where you want a change to happen and give it your full attention? Tell the group what happened.

This week:

Ask eGroup members to share their favorite points from the sermon, what spoke to them, a phrase or moment from the sermon they related to the most, or questions they have. If members have a hard time recalling the sermon, talk through your notes and share your favorite points.

Start with Scripture

Read Psalm 24.

Encourage your eGroup to open their Bibles to Psalm 24. Ask someone in your eGroup to read this passage.

- Look at verses [3-6](#). What does it mean to seek God's face? How is worship a form of seeking God's face?
- **Take It Further:** now look at [Psalm 42:5-7](#). The psalmist says, "My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you..." How can remembering be an act of worship? What are some other acts of worship?

Make It Personal

- What does the word “worship” mean to you?
 - What’s your favorite way to worship? What about it makes you feel connected to God?
- How are some everyday things — like staying in good physical health, doing your job with excellence, or being committed in your relationships — also acts of worship?
 - How do acts of worship like this help us experience and establish God’s kingdom on Earth? How do these acts help *others* experience His kingdom?
- These “everyday” acts of worship not only help us experience God’s presence, but they keep the enemy’s territory from growing. Give an example of an everyday act of worship that comes naturally to you. How does it limit the enemy’s power in your life? *(For example, doing your job with excellence limits the stress you could face from mistakes and negative feedback, and lets others see how you value and appreciate the position God has placed you in).*
- What’s an everyday act of worship that *doesn’t* come easy to you? (e.g., reading Scripture, gratitude, kindness, managing your relationships well, physical health, etc.) How can you improve it?
- How do these acts of worship trigger God’s power in our lives?

Act On It

- This week, remember that **you** are the gate — your actions will determine how you and those around you experience God’s kingdom. What are some everyday acts of worship you can practice as the gate? Identify one way you can be the gate for yourself and one way you can be the gate for someone else.

Praise Reports, Prayer Requests, and Prayer

Ask eGroup members to share any prayer requests they have. Record any notes or prayer requests to pray for members during the week.

Dear Lord, thank You for trusting us to be part of building your kingdom on Earth. Help us to see the places in our lives where we are missing the opportunity to worship you, and let us see Your blessings come to pass as we commit ourselves to pursuing You in every area. In Jesus’ name, amen.