

## WORSHIP

### SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

It's All about You, Everlasting God, Holy is the Lord, Christ is Enough for Me

## WELCOME

**Quiet Time.** Share with the group the Bible verse that specifically spoke to you in your quiet time today.

## WORD

### EXODUS 32:1

*Now when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people assembled about Aaron and said to him, "Come, make us a god who will go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up from the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."*

God gave the Israelites two gifts while they were in the wilderness. The Ten Commandments reminded them of His holiness and that they could not meet God's standard. Thankfully, God took the initiative to pursue the Israelites using the Tabernacle.

There, God's people could fellowship with Him. Everything there foreshadowed what was to come, pointing to Jesus, the sacrificial lamb who died for our sins so that we could once and for all have fellowship with the Holy God.

### PURSUING GOD

Pursuing God is a daily response to God's love and grace. Our faith will be tested along the way; therefore we must keep on pursuing Him.

While God was teaching Moses the detailed instructions for the Tabernacle, the Israelites at the foot of Mount Sinai crafted their own way to approach God through an idol (Exodus 32). Because Moses had been on the mountain for so long, they forced Aaron to make a representation of God that they could see and worship. The Israelites trusted Moses, but did not trust God.

Pursuing God should not depend on leaders. Yes, they are important. We should respect them and submit to their authority. But if they fail, it does not mean that God failed too. Some of us make excuses for not attending Dgroup. Maybe our leaders or other Dgroup members failed us.

Remember that Judas' presence among the 12 did not make Jesus less of a Savior, nor did it make his teaching useless. Our pursuit of intimacy with God is not dependent on other people.

### WAIT ON THE LORD

Our dependence on God is tested through time. People in a hurry may put their trust in a "golden calf": a do-it-yourself substitute, which vividly reflects man's impatience. Wait on the Lord, and He will renew your strength (Isaiah 40:31).

Sometimes we create a god in our mind to make us happy or comfortable. Our schedule, how we spend our time and resources, will reveal what it is. We tend to set aside only a little time for the Lord, and the rest is for ourselves. It is not bad to make schedules, but we must allow God to override our plans.

We sometimes miss what God wants to accomplish because we fail to focus on Jesus. We are preoccupied with ourselves and the things of the world. Spiritual disciplines of prayer, worship or fellowship have become a duty instead of devotion.

Slow down. Do not be in such a hurry that you miss opportunities to hear from God. Pursue intimacy with the Holy God every day. Wait on Him. Seek Him daily for what He wants you to accomplish.

Haste can be an enemy of God. Abraham lied, going to Egypt without consulting God. King Saul lost the kingdom, refusing to wait for Samuel, God's servant. Achan and his family perished because they did not wait for the Lord's blessing. Jesus often rebuked His disciples because they were in a hurry for promotion.

We are often hurt and harmed because we do not wait. If we love God and trust Him, we will learn to wait. All things work for good; God makes all things beautiful in His time (Ecclesiastes 3:11).

*He who waits on God loses no time.* – Vance Havner

# WORD (cont'd)

## WORSHIP GOD ONLY

*Idolatry is trusting people, possessions or positions to do for me what only God can do. – B. Gothard*

God does not want us to worship any other gods. If we turn away from Him, we will consequently face His wrath (Exodus 32:8-10). Worshipping other gods is outright disobedience of God's first commandment.

When Moses saw the rebellion of the Israelites, he burned with holy anger, destroying the tablets of God's covenant with His people and the golden calf.

We deserve to be disowned by God for our rebellion. But God's covenant will stand regardless.

But like the Israelites of ancient days, we will miss the blessings of God when we do not wait on Him.

Do not take sin lightly. God has already forgiven us of our sins, but God is also just, righteous and holy. He hates sin. We will reap its consequences. There will come a day of accounting and judgment for all that we have said and done (Exodus 32:33-34).

Get rid of your idols, and pursue God's way. God has already provided the Way to pursue intimacy with Him. To keep on pursuing intimacy with the Holy God is to be faithful to our Mediator, Jesus Christ.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

*(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)*

- 1. Where is Moses?** According to Exodus 32:1, what did the Israelites ask Aaron to do? Why did they ask for it?
- 2. Hate to Wait.** In what areas of life have you been impatient? What did you learn from experience when you waited versus when you did not wait?
- 3. Clean as you go.** What are the things in your life that you need to let go so that you can go and pursue intimacy with the Lord? What will you do to get rid of them?

# WORKS

## GOD'S WAY OR YOUR WAY

List the things that you are pursuing right now. For example: career, relationship, recreation, grades, championships, etc.

According to what you are learning, when does your pursuit become an idol? Discuss this with your accountability partner.

## WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

### I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

### II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

### III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

### IV. CCF Facilities

- New Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

### V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends