

Closer: 1 of 4
“Closer In Worship & Relationships”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
January 5, 2020

2020 Vision: To provide a clearer path of discipleship where we can grow closer to God and people.

- Closer as we **Worship** by responding to who God is and what He has done.
- Closer as we **Connect** in community with grace-filled relationships.
- Closer as we **Grow** in faith with personal application.
- Closer as we **Serve** in the local church to build up God’s family.
- Closer as we **Share** God’s message of forgiveness in Jesus.

“But you are a **chosen people**, a **royal priesthood**, a **holy nation**, a **people belonging to God**, that you may **declare the praises** of Him who called you **out of darkness** into His **wonderful light**. Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but **now you have received mercy.**” **1 Peter 2:9-10 (NIV) Remember Verse**

To Draw Closer In 2020, We Need To Understand:

1. Our Worship Is A _____

Jesus replied, “You must **love the LORD** your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment.”

Matthew 22:37-38 (NLT2)

“In the year that King Uzziah died, I **saw the Lord** seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of His robe filled the temple. Above Him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: “**Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.**” At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. “**Woe to me!**” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.” Then one of the seraphs flew to me with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. With it he **touched** my mouth and said, “See, this has touched your lips; your **guilt is taken away** and your **sin atoned for.**” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” **Isaiah 6:1-8 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

2. Our Worship Either _____

“Let us hold unswervingly to the **hope we profess**, for He who promised is **faithful**. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward **love and good deeds**. Let us not give up **meeting together**, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us **encourage** one another--and all the more as you see the Day approaching.”

Hebrews 10:23-25 (NIV)

“**Through Jesus**, therefore, let us continually offer to God a **sacrifice of praise**--the fruit of lips that **confess** His name. And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.” **Hebrews 13:15-16 (NIV)**

Notes: _____

3. Our Worship Requires Us To _____

“A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

Matthew 22:39 (NLT2)

“We **love** because **He first loved us**. If anyone says, “I love God,” yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever **loves God** must also **love his brother**. **1 John 4:19-21 (NIV)**

“Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and **members of God's household**, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with **Christ Jesus** himself as the **chief cornerstone**. **In Him** the whole building is **joined together** and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And **in Him** you too are being **built together** to become a **dwelling** in which **God lives by His Spirit**.” **Ephesians 2:19-22 (NIV)**

- Choosing to belong to a loving church family
- Choosing to do my part
- Choosing to share our message of hope

Notes: _____

- Where do I need to draw closer in worship and relationships?

I will draw closer to God in 2020 by:

- [] Responding to God's grace and mercy
- [] Connecting in community by joining Cornerstone as my church family
- [] Accepting Jesus as my Lord and Savior
- [] Signing up for Spiritual Upgrade Series – Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29

Closer: 1 of 4

“Closer In Worship & Relationships”

Cornerstone Church of Poway

Pastor Ed Turley

January 5, 2020



Family Corner: [Choose one day this week to ask questions to go deeper in faith as a family. Try this over dinner. Keep it to 12 minutes or less.]

Small Groups: [Choose as many questions that honors your group's time commitment]

Open in Prayer:

- What thoughts from this week's message encourages me to live a life for Jesus?

Icebreaker: What is your favorite worship song? Why?

2020 Vision: To provide a clearer path of discipleship where we can grow closer to God and people.

Read 1 Peter 2:9, as a remember verse, three times out loud

According to this verse, who does God say we are?

To Draw Closer In 2020, We Need To Understand:**1. Our Worship Is A Response To Who God Is And What He Has Done****Read Matthew 22:37-38**

According to Jesus, what is the most important command?

How can we practically demonstrate our love for God?

The Apologetics Study Bible: Understanding Why You Believe. Isaiah 6:1-5

In Ex 33:20 the Lord told Moses that no man could see His face and live; Jn 1:18 confirms that no one has seen God. His eternal essence is invisible (1 Tm 1:17; 6:16); He is Spirit (Jn 4:23-24). Yet Isaiah claimed to have seen "the Lord seated on a high and lofty throne... the King, the Lord of Hosts." There are other places in Scripture where people see the Lord; for example, He revealed Himself to Moses and the elders of Israel on Mount Sinai (Ex 24:9-18), and to Ezekiel and John in glorious and mysterious visions (Ezk 1; 10; Rv 4:1-11). These "theophanies" (appearances of God) were typically accompanied by features drawn from the world of nature, such as storm or volcanic activity, and often included the manifestation of God's "glory," an awesome weight or radiance that both revealed and hid His presence. They could be internal visions—experiences of one person not shared by bystanders. Or they could be "literary visions," poetic expressions of the Lord's appearance composed in order to add force to the words of His spokesman. Isaiah's vision occurred in the temple (Isa 6:4) and was described in terms of the worship conducted there. The chanting (v. 3) of the seraphim (lit. "burning ones") mirrored the antiphonal singing of the Levitical choirs, while the smoke of the altar (vv. 4, 6) filled the air, suggesting a sacrificial ceremony in progress. Whatever the particular nature of Isaiah's vision, it was a pivotal event in his prophetic ministry.

The MacArthur Study Bible.

I saw. The prophet became unconscious of the outside world and with his inner eye saw what God revealed to him. This experience recalls the experience of John's prophetic vision in Rev 4:1-11. **lofty and exalted.** The throne was greatly elevated, emphasizing the Most High God. **train.** This refers to the hem or fringe of the Lord's glorious robe that filled the temple. **temple.** Though Isaiah may have been at the earthly temple, this describes a vision which transcends the earthly. The throne of God is in the heavenly temple (Rev 4:1-6; 5:1-7; 11:19; 15:5-8). **6:2 Seraphim.** The seraphim are an order of angelic creatures who bear a similarity to the 4 living creatures of Rev 4:6, which in turn resemble the cherubim of Eze 10:1ff. **six wings.** Two wings covered the faces of the seraphim because they dared not gaze directly at God's glory. Two covered their feet, acknowledging their lowness even though engaged in divine service. With two they flew in serving the One on the throne. Thus, 4 wings related to worship, emphasizing the priority of praise.

Read Isaiah 6:1-8

How does Isaiah describe the Lord? How does he react?

How clear is my vision of who God is compared to this passage?

How can this help me respond better in worship?

2. Our Worship Either Affirms Or Contradicts Our Message About God

Read Hebrews 10:23-25

How does our worship affirm or contradict our message about God?

How can we encourage each other better on Sundays?

Read Hebrews 13:15-16

How is praise a sacrifice?

What are some good things we can put in practice on Sundays and every day?

3. Our Worship Requires Us To Connect with Grace Filled Relationships

Read Matthew 22:39

How is the entire law summed up in loving God and others?

Read 1 John 4:19-21

Why is it important for us to connect in grace-filled relationships?

Read Ephesians 2:19-22

Why is it important for us to belong to a faith-based community?

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.
