

Isaiah 29:13

Therefore the LORD said: "Inasmuch as these people draw near with their mouths And honor Me with their lips, But have removed their hearts far from Me, And their fear toward Me is taught by the commandment of men.

When you hear the word “worship” what do you think of? Maybe being in church and singing songs, or maybe listening to a choir singing or even listening to worship songs on your headphones. We seem to be taught that worship and music are the same thing. But worship is more than just singing a song to God. In fact worship does not have to include singing at all, because worship is not a form of music, but rather an attitude of the heart.

Here is an example of worship from the bible.

† ***Acts 10:25-26 As Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him and fell down at his feet and worshiped him. But Peter lifted him up, saying, "Stand up; I myself am also a man."***

Did you notice that they were not singing to Peter, yet they were trying to worship Peter.

Here is another example.

† ***Rev 22:8-9 Now I, John, saw and heard these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me, "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."***

But God makes it very clear that: ***for you shall worship no other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God. Ex 34:14***

So thinking of these things, and that worship is not just about singing a song to God, read today's devotional verse again.

The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up only of rules taught by men.

Think of the things you say during your prayer time to God, or even the songs you sing to God. Now what about other times, are you using this same mouth to build people up or tear them down?

† **James 3:8-10** *But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.*

One last thing to think about that Jesus said.

† **Matt 15:18-19** *But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and they defile a man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies.*

So ask the Lord to cleanse your heart so that you may truly worship Him in spirit and in truth. If not then: *their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is made up.*

† **John 4:24** *God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*

Also, here is something you may have never tried before. As we read, worship in not singing a song to the Lord. So why not search the bible and find other ways to worship the Lord, and do it how He wants it done, not how the man says to worship the Lord

† **Isaiah 1:11-17 (NLT2)** *“What makes you think I want all your sacrifices?” says the LORD. “I am sick of your burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fattened cattle. I get no pleasure from the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. When you come to worship me, who asked you to parade through my courts with all your ceremony? Stop bringing me your meaningless gifts; the incense of your offerings disgusts me! As for your celebrations of the new moon and the Sabbath and your special days for fasting— they are all sinful and false. I want no more of your pious meetings. I hate your new moon celebrations and your annual festivals. They are a burden to me. I cannot stand them! When you lift up your hands in prayer, I will not look. Though you offer many prayers, I will not listen, for your hands are covered with the blood of innocent victims. Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways. Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.*

† **Psalm 24:3-6 (NLT2)** *Who may climb the mountain of the LORD? Who may stand in his holy place? Only those whose hands and hearts are pure, who do not worship idols and never tell lies. They will receive the LORD’s blessing and have a right relationship with God their savior. Such people may seek you and worship in your presence, O God of Jacob. Interlude*