

Worship Matters Video Intensive with Bob Kauflin
Session 11: Loving Your Family and Church
(From Chapters 28-29 of *Worship Matters*)¹
Outline & Discussion Questions

I. Worship is Loving Others

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.'" - Matthew 22:36-40²

"May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, [that's our foundation] that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, welcome one another as Christ welcomed you for the glory of God." - Romans 15:5-6

A. Praying for Those Around Us

- that God would receive glory through them.
- to remind ourselves of what we can't do in and of ourselves
- that we might better know God's purposes for those relationships
- that we might grow in our love and care for those around us

II. Loving Your Family

- **An elder** must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? (1 Tim. 3:4-5)
- **Husbands** are to love, cherish, nourish, and provide for their wives. (Eph. 5:25-33)
- **Wives** are to respect, submit to, care for, and love their husbands. (Eph. 5:22-24; Prov. 31:10-31)
- **Parents** are to raise their children in the discipline and instruction of the Lord, with kindness and patience. (Eph. 6:4; Col. 3:21)
- **Children** are to obey, respect, and honor their parents. (Eph. 6:1-3; Col. 3:20)

III. Loving Your Church

- **Praying for them**
- **Hang out with the people in your church**
- **Look for opportunities to encourage and thank them.**

A. The Critic

"Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid."
- Proverbs 12:1

"Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning." - Proverbs 9:9

1. Pray for correction.
2. Expect correction.
3. Pursue correction.
4. Ask follow-up questions.
5. Thank people for correction.
6. Thank God for correction.

7. View correction in light of the cross.

"In light of God's judgment and justification of the sinner in the cross of Christ, we can begin to discover how to deal with any and all criticism. By agreeing with God's criticism of me in Christ's cross, I can face any criticism man may lay against me. In other words, no one can criticize me more than the cross has."
- Alfred Poirier³

B. The Encourager

"The crucible is for silver, and the furnace is for gold, and a man is tested by his praise." - Proverbs 27:21

- **Thank the person for taking the time to encourage you.**
- **If the complement is unclear, ask for clarification.**
- **Express gratefulness for the opportunity to serve.**

"For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness."
- Psalm 84:10

- **Draw attention to the contributions of others. (1 Cor. 12:17-20)**
- **Internally and intentionally "transfer the glory to God."**

IV. Loving by Leading Theologically

Session 11 Discussion Questions:

1. What are some ways you can ensure that your family is not being sacrificed on the altar of ministry?
2. What are some ways you can express your love to people in your church?
3. How do you typically respond to criticism or correction?
4. How does the gospel change the way we would naturally receive criticism/correction?
5. What are some ways to receive encouragement?
6. What does it mean to love the people you serve by leading them theologically? How do you feel that you're doing in that regard? (Seek the input of those on your team and your pastor on this question.)

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³ Taken from *The Cross and Criticism* by Alfred Poirier. *The Journal of Biblical Counseling*, Vol. 17, Number 3, Spring 1999, p. 19. www.ccef.org