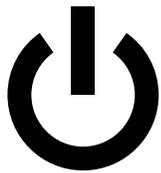


**Title:** True Worship

**Speaker:** Jordan Howerton

**Key Verses:** Matthew 15:1-14; 25:35-40

**Summary:** Worship is giving everything to God to show He's everything to us.



**Power Up:** Take a moment to prepare

Jordan admits we all have something we treat as the highest priority based upon the time we give to it. What in your life gets the most amount of time?



**Replay:** Take some time to watch

Note how Jordan's talk answers three key questions: **1) What is worship? 2) Why do we worship? 3) Where should I worship?**



**Comment:** Take some time to talk

Jordan defines true worship as "giving everything to God to show He's everything to you." **How is singing worship? What else is worship?**

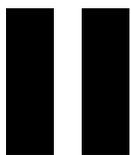
**Read Matthew 25:35-40. How does Jordan define heart, soul, strength, and mind? How are vertical and horizontal worship connected?**

"When our love of God stays vertical... we deprive others," Jordan comments. **What does he mean by this? How is praise contagious?**

"When we put truth to melody, it sticks," Jordan teaches. **What makes music a heart language? What have songs taught you about God?**

Jordan makes a strong case for the value of posture in worship. **How does posture help us in both vertical and horizontal worship?**

**Where do you connect best with God? How often do you go there?**



**Pause:** Take a moment to pray

Thank God for inviting us into His glorious, loving presence. Ask Him for greater awareness of Him. Ask Him for greater boldness in sharing about His goodness with others. Praise Him for being worthy of all honor.



**Take Action:** Take a step forward

Jordan provided a 30-day worship challenge. Take it. Wake up 15-30 minutes early for the next thirty days, find a place you feel free to connect with God, and read, listen to, or sing God's Word. Revisit what you heard from God at the close of your day. Keeping a journal could be handy.

## Bonus Features | Additional Notes and Quotes from Jordan Howerton

**Power Track Summary:** What does it mean to truly worship? This Power Track dives deeper into the idea of living out the songs we sing in worship so that our singing is even better!

**About the Speaker:** Jordan Howerton is husband, father, worship pastor, and lead singer for the Jordan Howerton Band. He grew up as a pastor's kid. He currently lives in Phoenix, AZ.

### A Definition of True Worship

"True worship is giving everything you have to show God that He's everything to you."

Worship comes from an old English word: *worth-ship*. We place the highest value with our time and resources to the thing that matters most to us.

"What God has called us to do is to place him at the highest point in our lives."

**Matthew 22:35-40.** The love of God cannot be separated from the love of neighbor... A vertical connection to God and ... horizontal connection to others.

**Heart:** Heart means our emotion and our will. For some of us the idea of giving God our whole heart is scary because we gave it to someone else and they broke it.

**Soul:** The whole of someone's being. The things you do without even thinking about it. Your essence, existence. Our breath.

**Strength:** The things we put our hands to, the things we can control.

**Mind:** Our mind is our thoughts, ideas, and pursuit of knowledge. Imagination.

"When we live out what we sing, our songs become more than just melodies in a room, they become anthems of the sons and daughters of the one true God."

"When we put truth to melody, it sticks... That's why singing is so important. Melody is a language that goes past any cultural barrier. [It's] a language that goes directly to our heart."

It's important for us to put actions to our singing (e.g., posture, hands raised), because it makes us vulnerable to Him. The vertical expression is not just giving but receiving.

"The songs we sing are prayers set to melody."

"When you freely worship God, you give people permission to worship in freedom."

"The place that we're trying to engage God [during our devotions] isn't the place we best connect [with Him or others]. Take your Bible outside. Sit under a tree... Where you connect with God is dependent on where you feel free to connect."

"Our time is the commodity we're giving that we're most selfish with... If you can be creative with how to effectively get homework done, how much more can you be creative with your time with God."