

Study Guide: Matthew Lesson 75 – Are You a Worshiper?

Sunday AM-July 19, 2026

This study guide is based on Lesson 75 of the Sermon on the Mount series, titled "Are You a Worshiper?" It explores the teachings of JESUS CHRIST regarding the heart of worship, the necessity of reconciliation, and the danger of religious hypocrisy. The lesson focuses on Matthew 5:23–24, emphasizing that our relationships with others directly affect our relationship with GOD.

Short-Answer Quiz

1. According to the lesson, what is the main difference between the focus of the scribes and Pharisees and the focus of the teachings of JESUS CHRIST?
 2. In Matthew 5:23–24, what specific action does JESUS CHRIST command a person to take if they remember a conflict while at the altar?
 3. Explain the meaning of the word "therefore" at the start of Matthew 5:23 as it relates to the previous lesson on anger and murder.
 4. How does the lesson describe the "gulf" created by sin and the steps required to remedy it?
 5. Why does the speaker mention that the "animals were never the issue" in the Jewish sacrificial system?
 6. According to 1 Samuel 15:22, what does the LORD value more than burnt offerings and sacrifices?
 7. In Isaiah 1:11–17, why does GOD describe the people's worship and feasts as an "abomination"?
 8. What does the speaker mean by the term "McDonald's sacrifice," and why is it criticized?
 9. What is the responsibility of a worshiper if they know someone else is angry with them, even if they do not feel angry themselves?
 10. What is the stated purpose for building new church facilities like the batting cage and pickleball court?
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Answer Key

1. The scribes and Pharisees focused on outward rituals, sacrifices, and carrying out the law as they saw it. JESUS CHRIST moved the focus to the internal condition of the heart and the importance of right relationships.
2. JESUS CHRIST instructs the person to leave their gift at the altar and go their way. They must first be reconciled to their brother before they return to offer their gift to GOD.
3. The word "therefore" connects this teaching to the previous lesson, which stated that anger, slander, and malicious words make a person as guilty as a murderer. It implies that because internal anger is so serious, reconciliation must be the priority.
4. Sin creates a distance or "gulf" between a person and GOD. The remedy is to have a contrite, broken heart, confess sins, show true repentance, and seek reconciliation with both GOD and those they have offended.
5. The animals were merely outward symbols of a repentant and obedient heart. The physical sacrifice had no value if the person's inward attitude was not right before GOD.
6. The LORD has greater delight in a person obeying HIS voice. The scripture states that "to obey is better than sacrifice."
7. GOD views their worship as an abomination because their lives are not right. While they performed religious rituals, they were neglecting justice, failing to help the oppressed, and ignoring the needs of widows and orphans.
8. A "McDonald's sacrifice" refers to a "drive-thru" approach to religion where people want to get right with GOD quickly and conveniently. The speaker argues that true reconciliation requires pausing to consider one's heart and actions.
9. Even if the worshiper does not feel animosity, they have a responsibility to go to the person who is upset and attempt to make things right. True worship cannot happen while a person knowingly allows a breach in a relationship to remain.
10. The facilities are intended to reach an older group of teenagers (young adults) who may feel detached from the church. The goal is to provide a safe, family-style environment that shows the church cares about their interests and well-being.

Essay Questions

1. Compare and contrast the "outward" worship of the Pharisees with the "inward" worship demanded by JESUS CHRIST. Use examples from the text to support your answer.
2. The lesson states that "manto-man comes before man-to-GOD." Discuss why GOD might refuse to accept worship from someone who has unresolved conflict with another person.
3. Analyze the warnings found in Isaiah 1 and Isaiah 58. How do these Old Testament passages support the message JESUS CHRIST gave in the Sermon on the Mount?
4. Explore the concept of "sham worship" or hypocrisy as described in the lesson. What are the specific behaviors or attitudes that turn sincere worship into a "sham"?

5. Reflect on the speaker's statement that "the greatest purification of the church is during persecution." How does this relate to the idea of being a "possessor" of faith rather than a "poser"?

Glossary of Key Terms

Term	Definition
Altar	A place where sacrifices or gifts are offered to GOD as an act of worship.
Atonement	The act of making amends for sin or wrongdoing to restore a relationship with GOD.
Contrite	Feeling or expressing remorse or penitence; affected by guilt.
Hypocrisy	Claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's own behavior does not conform; pretense.
Iniquity	Immoral or grossly unfair behavior; sin.
Pharisees	A religious group in ancient Israel known for strict observance of traditional and written law, often criticized by JESUS CHRIST for hypocrisy.
Reconciliation	The restoration of friendly relations; making things right between two parties.
Scribes	Ancient Jewish scholars who were authorities on the Law of Moses.
Self-righteousness	A feeling of smug satisfaction with one's own thin or beliefs, often involving a judgmental attitude toward others.
Vapor	A term used in the Bible (and the lesson) to describe the shortness of human life, like a wisp of smoke.

Greek Language Reference

After a deep analysis of the provided source context, there were no Greek words used in the lesson transcript. All teachings and definitions were provided in English. Therefore, no phonetic pronunciation guides or Greek-specific definitions are required for this document.