

3. *The value of public worship.* Take advantage of the opportunity to say something about the helpfulness of meeting in the company of others to worship God. Has Matt.

18 : 19 any bearing upon this matter ? Do most of us need to have our thoughts definitely directed to the themes of religion, as public worship does direct them ?

### FOR TEACHERS IN THE SENIOR DEPARTMENT

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Teachers in the Senior Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the HOME STUDY QUARTERLY.

In dealing with The Nature and Value of True Worship, which is the Senior Topic for to-day, it might be well to point out at the outset, that worship is an instinct of the human heart. The human soul can never explain himself and the world in which he lives, without some one higher than himself. Therefore, when the soul does not bow down before the living and true God it worships false gods.

*The nature of true worship.*

1. It is intelligent. The heathen bows in blindness. The Christians bow in the light of revelation. Christ had made a final revelation of God and the Christian worships in a clear understanding of God's nature, thoughts and plans.

2. It is loving. The heathen bows in fear, the Christian in love. Ps. 84 tells of the longing of the true worshiper for the true God. His heart responds to the love of God.

3. It is reverent. Worship is not familiarity. Moses bows himself before God, Ex. 34 : 8. Love cannot blind us to the greatness of God. The Christian becomes increasingly conscious of the gulf between himself and God which is only overcome from God's side. Heathen worship is slavish. Christian worship is reverent.

4. It is sacrificial. We give God praise. We make confession to him. We ask the gifts of his love from him. But we also lay our gifts of self and substance on the altar. Do not forget to point out that the offering is as much a part of worship as any other part of the service.

5. It is simple. Jesus says (John 4 : 19-24), that worship is no longer centred in stately temples with stately rituals. It is the spirit that makes the temple and determines its ritual. Public worship must have its order and content, but spirit vitalizes it. Public worship must never become a spectacle. That which attracts our senses may distract our spirits.

*The value of true worship.*

1. It is developing. The consciousness of God's presence increased with exercise and practice like all other faculties. To express our spiritual hungerings after the divine is to increase them.

2. It is refreshing. The painter is constantly turning from his little canvas to the spread of land and sky and sea. His eyes are rested by the contemplation of immensity. So the lifting of our thoughts from the little things of life to the greatness of God's love revives the weary spirit.

### FOR TEACHERS IN THE INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT

By Rev. C. F. McIntosh, B.D., Campbellford, Ont.

Teachers in the Intermediate Department should study carefully the scholars' materials in the INTERMEDIATE QUARTERLY.

You might introduce this lesson by a few questions such as : "Does everybody worship ?" "Why do we worship ?" "Does an 'irreligious' man worship ?" "What distinguishes Christian worship ?"

*A Great Lesson in a Strange Place.* Have the pupils point out the position of Samaria on the map. Show them the usual route from

Judea to Galilee for strict Jews. Ask reasons for this roundabout journey. A straight line drawn from Jerusalem to Nazareth will pass close to Jacob's well, near the modern Nablus. Why would Jesus ignore the scruples of the hypersensitive Jews ? What lies back of "must needs pass through Samaria ?" Have the class give reasons for Jesus avoiding a