

Worship Matters – Worship results in Mystery, Mockery and Mission



Looking at Acts 2 and the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, Chris brought out three things that came about as a result of worship.

- Mystery when the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in other languages.
- Mockery from some of those who heard them.
- Mission, as others of those who heard them responded.

We looked at the history of the charismatic renewal in the church which came in three perceivable waves.

- First wave: Invasion - The launch of the Pentecostal movement, the Spirit's work invading the world.
- Second wave: Invitation - Established churches were influenced and joined in the movement, inviting more people into where God was at work (eg Alpha).
- Third wave: Infiltration - The launch of new movements of churches seeking the gifts of the spirit, bringing increased expectation of spiritual gifts in daily life.

Each wave saw its own share of mystery, mockery and mission.

Questions

Read Acts 2: 1 – 21.

1. In both the day of Pentecost and the first wave of the charismatic renewal, it was the Holy Spirit who made the first move. Share any examples from your own life or other testimonies where the Holy Spirit acted first and you/others responded.
2. In Acts 2 it seems that the disciples' mission flowed naturally out of their worship. Have you experienced this or do you find that worship and mission feel quite separate?
3. Some of those who heard the disciples proclaiming the works of God responded with mockery. Have you ever been mocked for your worship? Did that impact you, or change the way that you worshipped?
4. Discuss how we can respond to mockery in a way that demonstrates who we are, children of God, co-heirs with Christ and citizens of God's kingdom.

5. The Holy Spirit kick-started the mission in Jerusalem and here we are today. Discuss how we would like to see God's Holy Spirit at work in the future and pray into this.