

About Worship

By Pastor Jim Preisig

Worship is one of those incredible experiences in life that defies adequate explanation. For me, the closest approximation of the experience is climbing a trail in Rocky Mountain National Park and coming upon a glorious summit or gorgeous alpine lake. My wife's reaction is typically the opposite of mine. She inevitably wants to sit and simply drink in the beauty and allow the experience to wash over her; I battle an almost irresistible urge to shout out my wonder and awe. Since she is not eager to chat, I cannot help but pull out my cell phone and call some friend to whom I can describe the stunning beauty of God's creation. It is so frustrating when there is no signal; the experience is just too amazing not to share, the joy too extreme to contain.

Worship is like that. For some, it is a communal experience that overflows with exuberance and joy; for others, it is the stillness within which God speaks. Just last weekend both aspects of worship came into sharp focus. On Sunday at 8:15 and 11 o'clock, Scott Westbrook sang "The Lord's Prayer" a cappella during the offering. It may have been the quietest offering ever taken. People almost held their breaths; it was that beautiful. The same thing happened at 9:30 when our singers sang the most beautiful song of eagle's wings, and something similar happened Saturday night when we all sang the Lord's Prayer responsively. These were holy moments. And yet, during the greeting at all of the services, the volume rose to a roar as people greeted each other and expressed such obvious joy in seeing one another. The cacophony of laughter and love must have been music to God's heart. These were also holy moments.

Perhaps that is what Jesus meant when he promised to be present whenever two or three gather in His name.