

# SS VOICE

Bimonthly Newsletter of  
DBA YOUTH

NOV-DEC 2011

## Contents

- *Editorial*
- *True meaning of worship*
- *Personal worship*
- *Worship that pleases God*
- *Are you a true worshipper?*
- *You counted me blessed*
- *It's Time*
- *News*



Your suggestions/articles can be mailed to  
[Ssvoice.dba@gmail.com](mailto:Ssvoice.dba@gmail.com)

## *Editorial*

Warm and hearty greetings to all of you in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ !! After our successful release of SS voice on 23rd October 2011, we are back again with our second edition of SS Voice. We are all so happy that a plan that just remained in the minds of few is today published. We thank Doha Brethren Assembly for all their support and prayers. And hoping it will continue in this way.

After a topic like Friendship to start off with we thought we will move to another very important topic in the life of every believer, Worship.

Starting off with Genesis till the last book Revelation, we find Bible gives great importance to Worship. It is a great privilege that we belong to a great nation who have been chosen to worship the Living God. When we look back at the Old Testament, we see all the preparations the children of Israel had to take before they came together to worship God. Today we are a privileged group who are able to freely come before His presence to offer our praises and thanksgivings through the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. The SS Voice group has brought about some really good articles on worship. Thanks to all for your articles.

From our next edition on we would like to receive articles, poems or cartoons from Sunday School students and also the ex- Sunday School students. Our next month topic would be Temptations. You are requested to send your articles on this topic.

May the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified. Amen.



*Sheeba*

## *True Meaning of Worship*

Apostle Paul describes worship perfectly in Rom 12:1-2- *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. <sup>2</sup> And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”*

These verses contain the elements of true worship. Firstly, the *“mercies of God”* should motivate us to worship Him. He has given us eternal life in Him which we don't deserve. The knowledge of the incredible gifts he has bestowed upon us should motivate us to pour out praise and thanksgiving to Him! Then, we should present our bodies *“a living sacrifice”* to Him which means we should give God all of ourselves. That includes our heart, mind, thoughts, attitudes – all of them should be presented to God. How? The verse goes on to tell us we should do so by *“the renewing of the mind”*. We renew our minds daily by cleansing our minds of the world's wisdom and replacing it with wisdom from God. The thoughts of the flesh should be replaced with the thoughts of the Spirit. As 1 Corinthians 2:16 says, we need to have *“the mind of Christ.”* We need to renew our minds by the knowledge of the Word of God in us.

Worship involves submission and acknowledgement of God's sovereignty. True worship is God centered worship. Sometimes the focus during worship goes to other things like what music is sung, how it looks to other people, our emotions and many other patterns followed in the church. Jesus said true worshippers must worship God *“in Spirit and truth”*. (John 4:24) The most important thing is that our heart and attitude are in the right place. In order to worship God in truth, we need to know that Jesus said *“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”* (John 14:6) So, before we can worship in the way that God desires, we need to ensure that we have a strong relationship with Him through faith in



Jesus Christ. We also need to know that God is holy, loving, and He is the ONLY one worthy of all our worship and devotion. Psalm 96:9 says, *“Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.”* Nothing else in this world should come before our God or become a pursuit of our life other than God. When we praise and worship the Lord of our life, not only does it fill our deepest needs and gives us great peace within, it brings great joy to the Lord. Zephaniah 3:14-17 says, *“Sing, O Daughter of Zion; Shout, O Israel! Rejoice; be in high spirits and glory with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away your judgments; He has cast out your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD your God in your midst, The Mighty One, will save; He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.”*

Zephaniah's words here reveal us about God's character. He tells Israel that God is mighty and He will save. He is present among them and their shouts of joy please Him. God delights in the praises of His people! May the Lord enable us to praise and worship Him in Spirit and truth!

*Ancy Mathew, Philadelphia*

## *Personal Worship*

I hope you know that our daily quiet times with the Lord must include time for worship too.. It is as important as the “shopping-list prayers” we present to God every single day of our life. All through a week, we worship this same God Almighty individually, in the privacy of our rooms and then on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the next week, we gather together to worship with all the saints in our local church. But are we doing it right in our personal lives?

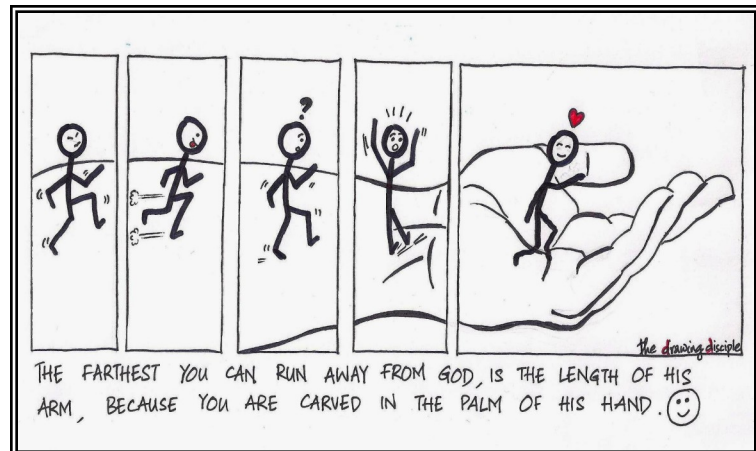
*But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. (John 4:23).* To be a true worshiper, we can’t worship in anyway we want -no matter how sincere-we should worship in spirit and truth. And since God is the object of our worship, it works only if He decides how we should worship Him too. Worship is simply thanking God for who He is and although no man can understand the entire picture of God, with humility, he pays deep reverence for the Maker of all things- this Divine God who dwells in unapproachable light.

For worship to be an important part of your life, try this: everyday for your quiet time, make it compulsory that you find something new about the character of God from the passage that you read or from the hymn that you sing.. That something should be the reason why you worship Him on that day. If you do that daily, you will get a minimum of 7 reasons as to why you worship Him by the end of the week. J But the attitude with which you sit before the Word is equally important. James 4:6 says *“God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”* If you sit before a bible passage thinking you’ve read it so many times and you know every detail of it, then you will never learn anything new about God. It’s important to be humble and accept the fact that there is so much more to learn about this God- rather than trying to limit Him within a box in our minds.

Every diehard fan who worships and totally adores their star idol in this world, impersonates him/her eventually.

When we worship our heavenly Father, the same devotion ought to be there even though we know the complete perfection happens at the Rapture (like the cherry on top!). Just like our Sunday school chorus, little by little and day by day... Jesus will keep changing us. The more we worship, the more we will understand the character of the God we love, so we can know His will in our lives and take decisions without disappointing Him.. Knowing all this now, can you stop yourselves from praising this awesome Creator? Just like the song writer sings:

***“Wisdom unsearchable, God the invisible,  
Love indestructible, In frailty appears,  
Lord of infinity, stooping so tenderly,  
Lifts our humanity to the heights of His throne,  
Oh what a mystery! Meekness and Majesty!  
Bow down and worship for this is your God!  
This is your God!”***



***Steffi Johns, Kolencherry***

## *Worship that pleases God*

*John 4:24-God is Spirit and His worshippers must worship Him in Spirit and in truth*

These are the words that Jesus addressed to the Samaritan woman that showed the true way of worship. The Samaritans too worshipped the true God but their worship was based on the outward knowledge of God. It was a ritual that was practiced since many generations and they did not know its true meaning. There was no personal experience in their worship. This is also true in the many practices of worship that we see around us today

Jesus Christ is showing the true way to worship God in spirit and in truth which is applicable to all who desire to worship Him . We can see that in the Old Testament times, worship was based on sacrifices that would be burned on the altar that would become a pleasing aroma to the Lord. But today worship is totally different. The centre of our worship today is Jesus Christ and we don't have any symbolic rituals in worship. We have access today to God , the father by his Son Lord Jesus Christ with the help of His Holy spirit. Today, we can enter the Most Holy place with confidence at any time because of the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus on the cross of calvary.

God desires a worship in the spirit, a worship that is a result of the outpouring of the spirit within oneself. To have a spirit filled worship, it is essential that just like the Levitical sacrifices , the flesh with all its fat and dirt must be burned on God's altar. It is only when we yield our lives consciously in the presence of God that He truly fills us with His spirit. A man controlled by his flesh cannot please God in any way. When we read about the sacrifice of Cain and Abel we know that Abel offered it with a clear conscience to God where as Cain was merely interested in performing the sacrifice as a ritual and thereby God rejects Cain's sacrifice. *Gen 4:4 "...The Lord looked with favor on Abel and his offering"*. It is God's spirit that must control our worship and every word that we utter must be out of the spirit within us. It is true that the spirit will move our hearts to worship our Saviour if we truly yield in His presence.

Truth is also another requirement in genuine worship.

Jesus Christ is the truth. This truth must be experienced in our lives. We read that "God is holy and those that worship Him must be Holy". Jesus Christ himself is the truth who sanctifies our hearts for worship. We read in

*Heb 10:22 "Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water"*

Let us examine our lives in the light of Gods word. Are we worshipping Him in the spirit? Are we worshipping Him in the truth? Let us remember that we were called forth from every kindred and every tribe of this earth to worship a living God who reigns in heaven forevermore...

All Praises to the King of Kings!!!!

*Noble Mathew, Doha*



## *Are you a true worshipper?*

Now, when you read the title, it might sound a bit strange. You might think what is this guy talking about?, we all go to Sunday meetings, Sunday schools, Bible study classes and worship the Lord, learn and study from the word and praise his name. But I would like to highlight the word 'TRUE'. Everyone worships God but do you worship him truly in spirit and in truth, I SAY this because teens of this modern era sometimes consider coming to church as a way to pass their time. Some boys or girls even come to church due to their parent's compulsion.

Dear friends don't consider worshipping the Lord Almighty as a joke. It is a 'SERIOUS' matter. Our God is the architect and the creator of everything that we have seen and not seen. He is above all and nothing is impossible for him. Therefore worshipping this GREAT GOD should come out of our hearts with due fear and love for him and not out of others compulsion. Now if you are a true worshipper, it should be evident in your life. A true worshipper knows whom he worships and why. His first priority will also be for God.

But today hasn't relationships, media, studies and our other interests been prioritized more? I am not excluding me, even I have skipped many meetings for studies and even to have some fun. But let me remind you as a friend who had some experiences. You won't gain anything by skipping meetings. Whatever fun or whatever knowledge you acquire during that period of time is nothing when compared with the joy in the presence of the LORD. For it is immeasurable. The joy and blessings that you gain when you worship him from your heart is very unique and eternal. Let me conclude by saying that 'God looks at your heart' whether your worship is true

As written in John 4:23 *"But the hour is coming and now is when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him"*. Let us mould ourselves to be "true worshippers" and not "mere worshippers" because our Father in heaven seeks such people.



### *Quotes on Worship*

*"It is in the process of being worshipped that God communicates His presence to men."*

**C.S. Lewis**

*"Without worship, we go about miserable."*

**A. W. Tozer**

*"Surely that which occupies the total time and energies of heaven must be a fitting pattern for earth"*

**Paul E Billheimer**

*"Worship changes the worshiper into the image of the One worshiped"*

**Jack Hayford**

*"When I worship, I would rather my heart be without words than my words be without heart"*

**Lamar Boschman**

*Jensen Benoji, Doha*

## *It's Time*

Time may go slow ,  
Time may go fast

But we all must learn,  
To leave behind our past.

Think what the present holds for us ,  
And pray that it lasts.

Cause time set's sail,  
Without a mast !

So do not wait for time,  
Its counting down fast.

For Christ's coming is at hand,  
So never wait till the last.

Cause, time can never be caught,  
And neither can it ever be slowed.

It keeps moving on ,  
Without a hold.

But eagerly wait for Christ's coming,  
Cause, He has come once,

And He has promised to come again,  
So pray that the future holds the best for us.

So give your life to Christ,  
And live in His love,

Look towards CHRIST,  
And leave behind your PAST !!!.....



*Joel John Johny, Doha*

## *You counted me blessed !!*

With a pinch of jealousy as the Psalmist sings,  
A clear desire his heart cries out and sighs.

How the sons of Korah longed,  
To come before the altars of God.

They envied the birds who nested there,  
Close to the areas where all were restricted.

They desired they were in the Levite tribe,  
Who resided in the house of God.

Yet they sing joy of one day in His house,  
Rather than a thousand elsewhere.

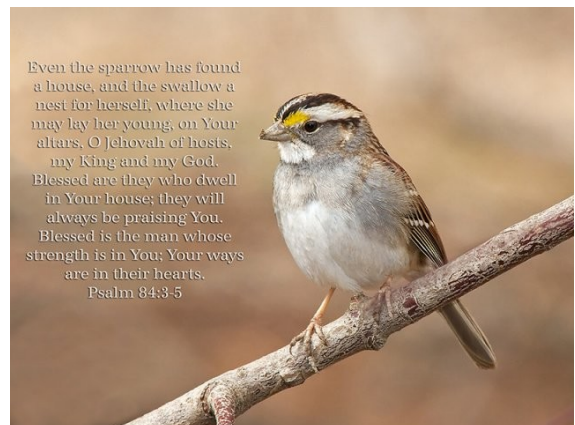
They called them Blessed who were within,  
The courts of the Almighty God.

Oh Father when I look at myself,  
How could I be standing at the Most Holy place.

I was not a Priest, nor a Levite,  
Not even a Jew for that instance.

Yet through Christ you tore down the veil,  
And blessed us with all Your mercies.

With the Psalmist I can proudly say today,  
Lord You counted me BLESSED!!!!



Even the sparrow has found  
a house, and the swallow a  
nest for herself, where she  
may lay her young, on Your  
altars. O Jehovah of hosts,  
my King and my God,  
Blessed are they who dwell  
in Your house; they will  
always be praising You.  
Blessed is the man whose  
strength is in You; Your ways  
are in their hearts.  
Psalm 84:3-5

*Sheeba Stanley, Bangalore*

## *News*

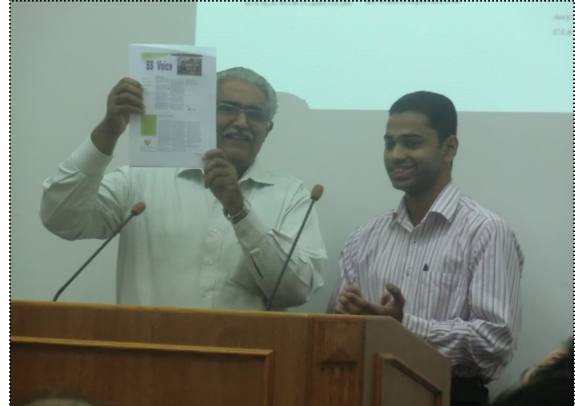
### *VBS Doha concludes*



**Doha**, The VBS at the assembly was held between Nov 7 -11. Evg. Jim Mathew from Jagadapur was the special guest for the program. Around 200 students attended the sessions. There were talent shows, songs, special sessions for teens and a variety of programs that enlightened the children.

The main theme for the VBS was “*Stand firm for the Lord*”. The life of Daniel was the bible lesson for all the groups. There was also missionary story classes on the life of Mahakavi K.V Simon Sir. Moreover many children also were able to know about their Savior.

### *SS Voice released at DBA*



**Doha**, The inaugural edition of SS Voice was released by Gaius Uncle on October 23<sup>rd</sup> at Doha Brethren Assembly. In his address to the gathering, he emphasized the role played by the Sunday school ministry in influencing the lives of children at DBA.

Moreover, He praised the efforts of the 2006 batch of the Sunday school who have been instrumental in releasing a magazine of this kind. Noble, representing the magazine team spoke on the motives of such a venture in voicing the concerns of the youth. Later, the session was concluded with a dedicatory prayer.

## *Prayer and Praise*

- Thank God for the blessed ministry of Evg. James M Thomas at DBA. Do continue praying for his ministries in Nedumbassery.
- The VBS Doha had been blessed by the presence of Evg. Jim Mathew. Do remember his ministries in Bastar district.
- Pray for our editor Sis Sheeba Stanley who is expecting a child very soon. May God grant His abundant grace to her in this time of need.
- Sis Steffi Johns has passed her MBBS course in First class. Pray for her present internship.
- The DBA gospel work in Thenmala has been progressing well. Do pray that a church testimony would be established soon. Also for Evg. V.S Mathew who is leading this ministry.
- Bro Bejoy Thomas has come to Doha for his vacations. Do remember his studies back in UK.
- Bro Paul Gaius is doing his course project in Doha. Pray for his degree course and for the surgery he plans to do next year.
- Pray for all the students pursuing their higher studies in India. Also for those who are in their X and XII grades