

MODGNIK

Week 4 Discussion Guide



Icebreaker

Think about the last time you were at a sports game, concert, or celebration. How do you naturally express excitement or agreement in those settings (cheering, high-fives, raising hands, etc.)?

Read

Psalm 115:1, Isaiah 6:3 & Philippians 2:9-11 (Optional: Have your group read the passage in two different versions. Then have the group retell the passage in their own words.)

Discuss

In a culture that often encourages us to put ourselves at the center, the "N" in MODGNIK stands for "Not to us," reminding us that Scripture begins with "In the beginning, God" rather than focusing on ourselves. Whenever people in the Bible encountered God's holiness, they reacted with deep reverence and awe, realizing that His unfailing love and grace sent us a Savior.

- **Why do you think Psalm 115:1 repeats the phrase "Not to us" twice? What changes in our daily mindset when our starting point becomes "Not to us" instead of focusing on our own preferences or achievements?**
- **In Scriptures like Isaiah 6:3 and Psalm 96:9, seeing God's holiness leads to awe and trembling. How does remembering God's holiness help put our lives, sins, and struggles into perspective?**
- **When you reflect on how Jesus bridged the gap between a holy God and our moral mistakes, what specific reasons fill your heart with gratitude and worship?**

The book of Psalms presents various Hebrew expressions for praise that go far beyond a single English word. From Halal (celebrating joyfully) and Yadah/Towdah (lifting hands) to Barak (kneeling) and Shabach (shouting praise), and Zamar (make music), biblically grounded worship takes the focus off our personal comfort and directs all attention to God.

- **Which biblical posture of praise feels natural to you, and which pushes you outside your comfort zone?**
- **Why can it feel easier to shout or raise our hands at a sporting event than during worship to God?**
- **How can our physical posture (kneeling, raising hands, opening our hands) shape our hearts toward God?**

Worship is a continuous, Christ-centered lifestyle where everything we do is poured out as praise. Because Jesus humbled Himself on the cross, God exalted Him above every other name, calling us to make Him the center of our daily walking, talking and living.

- **What does it mean to you personally that the name of Jesus carries supreme power and authority over everything in heaven and on earth?**
- **What does a "poured-out, Christ-centered" day look like in your workplace, home, or daily routine?**
- **If making God your top priority is the goal, what is one practical adjustment you could make to your daily schedule this week to reflect that focus?**

Application

This week, take the spotlight off yourself.

- **Do one thing that brings you joy and one thing that simply blesses someone else, with no expectation of recognition or anything in return.**
 - **Maybe send an encouraging text, write a note, make a phone call, serve someone or give generously.**
- **Write down your reflections to both of these things and share it with the group next week.**

Prayer

Pair off with each other and spend time praying for each other. Share a personal request to pray for each other this week.