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## **"Warship?"**

By  
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**What** What is warship? I mean, worship. Is it just the singing we do on Sunday morning? This script, offered as a duet or a monologue, can be presented on its own or can be used as an introduction to a time of worship through song.

Themes: Worship

**Who** Player 1  
Player 2  
Joan (monologue version)

**When** Present Day

**Costumes** Everyday clothing

**Props** 2 Pillows

**Why** Matthew 15:8-20, Romans 12:1, John 4:23-24, Colossians 3:16-17, Psalm 100:1-2, Psalm 150, 1 Samuel 15:22, Psalm 51:16-17, Genesis 22:4-6

**How** As a duet, Player 1 and Player 2 are good friends with different gifts and talents. Player 2 is in a playful mood. Player 1 is enjoying the antics, but wants to get a message across. This starts out directed toward the audience and then turns more into a conversation between Player 1 and Player 2 as they work through what worship is together.

**Time** 5 minutes

*Duet Version*

**Player 1** begins by addressing the audience.

**Player 1:**      Worship. What is it? It's kind of a weird word if you think about it. If you're not careful it could sound like you're saying *war ship* and then you've got a whole other conversation on your hands.

*A pillow comes flying out and hits **Player 1**.*

**Player 1:**      Hey! What was that for?

**Player 2** enters with another pillow in hand.

**Player 2:**      I thought I heard you say warship. I thought we were inventing a new game like battleship, but instead it's more like free for all dodgeball. Now all we need is water.

**Player 1:**      I did say *warship*.

**Player 2** throws a pillow at **Player 1** again.

**Player 1:**      Stop that! We aren't playing a game. I was talking about worship.

**Player 2:**      What does a warship have to do with worship?

**Player 1:**      I was just saying that, if you're not careful, worship could sound like you're saying *warship*.

**Player 2** hits **Player 1** with a pillow. **Player 1** looks at **Player 2**, shakes head and then continues.

**Player 1:**      But really, what is it? One definition the dictionary gives is "formal or ceremonious rendering of such honor and homage."

**Player 2:**      In other words, a designated time to come together before God?

**Player 1:** Yep. Many people associate it with singing and music.

**Player 2:** *(disheartened)* Oh. I can't sing very well. When I try, my family says it sounds like a bird is dying. I'm not super great at instruments either... Let's just say it sounds like an old rusty door that is blowing in the wind and got struck by a dying bird... definitely not a sweet sweet sound. More like an *(like a dying bird)* eee eee ahh! sound. *(pause)* Is that all worship is?

**Player 1:** The dictionary gives another definition, "reverent honor and homage paid to God."

**Player 2:** Those two words appear again, honor and homage. I think I know what honor means, but what does homage mean?

**Player 1:** Honor means, "high respect." Homage means, "respect or reverence paid or rendered; something done or given in acknowledgment or consideration of the worth of another."

**Player 2:** Huh. Something done out of respect after recognizing the worth of someone else. There's no mention of music.

**Player 1:** Exactly. There's no mention of any specific action at all. Now the Bible does say to come to the Lord with gladness, with joyful songs, with tambourines and dancing...

**Player 2:** Dancing! Hold up. Now that's a whole nother animal altogether. Like one that lays on the ground because it just tripped and face planted.

**Player 1:** You can't dance either?

**Player 2:** Nope. *(pause, thinking for a second)* But I can lay on the ground.

**Player 2** lays face down on the ground.

**Player 1:** That actually brings up a good point. One word in the the Bible translated as worship means to fall down flat or stoop in reverence. So I suppose that’s a good place to be.

*Pause, **Player 2** has fallen asleep.*

**Player 1:** *(insert name into blank)* Hey \_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_? \_\_\_\_\_, wake up!

**Player 1** hits **Player 2** with a pillow.

**Player 2:** *(yawning)* Huh? What happened?

**Player 1:** You fell asleep.

**Player 2:** Oh. *(yawning again)* This seems like a better place to take a nap than worship...

**Player 2** stands up.

**Player 2:** Is there anything I’m actually good at that I can do to show my appreciation to God? To give Him my worship?

**Player 1:** Jesus said about the Pharisees, in Matthew fifteen, that their “worship” wasn’t worship at all, but rules made by men. They were saying the right things. They were singing the right songs, but their hearts weren’t there. He says it’s what comes out of the heart that is important, because what is in your heart is what you truly are.

**Player 2:** I guess it is a war, isn’t it? A war for the allegiance of our hearts, as someone once put it.

*Thoughtful pause.*

**Player 1:** You know, you may not be gifted in the musical realm, but something I know you can do is math.

**Player 2:** I do love me a good math problem. All the numbers, fractions, PARAchute EXpert My Dear Aunt Sally, SOH CAH TOA, trapin' zoids and what not.

**Player 1** looking extremely confused.

**Player 1:** What does your Aunt Sally parachuting and bionicles have to do with math?

**Player 2:** You know. Order of operations: parentheses, exponents, multiplication, division, addition, subtraction? The other is sine, cosine, and tangent rules, not bionicles.

**Player 1** still looking confused.

**Player 2:** Did you not pay any attention at all during math class growing up?

**Player 1:** *(shrugs shoulders)* Math wasn't my thing, just like music isn't yours.

**Player 2** shakes head.

**Player 2:** Anyway, how can *math* be an act of worship?

**Player 1:** It depends on your perspective.

**Player 2:** Oh. *(pause)* You mean when I use that ability with a mindset, or I guess, a heartset, that I can only do it because God has given me the ability and opportunity to do so, my perspective changes? *(an aha moment)* My focus is on God and what I do, I do for Him.

**Player 1:** Exactly. That's worship.

**Player 2:** Huh. Doing something out of respect after recognizing that God is worthy of my all and that I am nothing without Him. You're saying that comes from the heart?

**Player 1:** Yes! You see, worship is not a specific action, it’s a posture of the heart.

*Thoughtful pause. **Player 2** increasingly gets excited as the following is said.*

**Player 2:** You know what? I will sing like a dying bird. I will dance with my two left feet. I will do double and triple integrals and exponents to the hundredth power. I will man my *warship*, because I stand before an audience of one and from the depths of my heart I cannot help but make a joyful noise to Him!

**Player 1:** Amen!

*Lights Down*

*Monologue Version*

*Talking directly to the audience.*

**Joan:** Worship. What is it? It's kind of a weird word if you think about it. Oh! If you're not careful it could sound like you're saying *war ship* and then you've got a whole nother conversation on your hands. And you may have to dodge cannonballs or pillows coming at you from all sides. Speaking from experience.

But really, what is it?

One definition the dictionary gives is "formal or ceremonious rendering of such honor and homage."

In other words, a designated time to come together before God.

Many people associate it with singing and music. In fact, what we are gathered here to do right now. But is that all? If it's just singing and music then I personally may have a problem. When I try to sing, my friends say it sounds like a bird is dying.

I'm not super great at instruments either... let's just say it sounds like an old rusty door that is blowing in the wind... and got struck by a dying bird...

Definitely not a sweet sweet sound. More like an *(like a dying bird)* eee eee ahh! sound.

Is that all worship is?

The dictionary gives another definition, "reverent honor and homage paid to God."

Those two words appear again, honor and homage. Honor means, "high respect." Homage means, "respect or reverence paid or rendered; something done or given in acknowledgment or consideration of the worth of another."

*Thoughtful, made a connection.*

Huh. Something done out of respect after recognizing the worth of someone else. There's no mention of music. There's no mention of any specific action at all.

Now the Bible does say to come to the Lord with gladness, with joyful songs, with tambourines and dancing...

Dancing! Now that's a whole other animal altogether. Like one that lays on the ground because it just tripped and face planted. Yep, you guessed it. I can't dance either. *(pause, thinking for a second)* But I can do that.

*Lays face down on the ground. Pause for a second and then popping head up to look at the audience.*

Actually, this brings up a good point. One word in the Bible translated as worship means to fall down flat or stoop in reverence. So I suppose this is as good of place as any to be, right?

*Starts falling asleep and then jerks awake, yawning.*

Oof, it's dangerous down here. This seems like a better place to take a nap than worship...

*Standing up.*

Is there anything I'm actually good at that I can do to show my appreciation to God? To give Him my worship?

*Thinking out loud, as if remembering something interesting.*

Worship. Yeah. Hm.

Jesus said about the Pharisees in Matthew fifteen that their "worship" wasn't worship at all, but rules made by men.



They were saying all the right things, singing the right songs, but their hearts weren't there. He says it's what comes out of the heart that is important, because what is in your heart is what you truly are. *(pause, made another connection)* I guess it is a war, isn't it? A war for the allegiance of our hearts, as someone once put it.

You see I may not be gifted in the musical realm, but something I can do is math. Don't get me wrong. I know plenty of people who are both good at math and can sing or play music. I'm just not one of them. Now I know what you're thinking. How can *math* be an act of worship? Well, when I use that ability with a mindset, or I guess, a heartset, that I only can do it because God has given me the ability and opportunity to do so, my perspective is different. My focus is on God and what I do, I do for Him. That is worship.

Doing something out of respect after recognizing that God is worthy of my all and that I am nothing without Him. That comes from the heart.

You see, worship is not a specific action, it's a posture of the heart.

*Increasingly getting excited as the following is spoken.*

You know what. I will sing like a dying bird. I will dance with my two left feet. I will do double and triple integrals and exponents to the hundredth power. I will man my *war ship*, because I stand before an audience of one and from the depths of my heart, I cannot help but make a joyful noise to Him!

*Exit.*

### ***Optional Ending with Transition***

Would you please join me in making a joyful noise to the Lord?

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