

Will You Bow?

2026-01-25 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Psalm 91

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

For the last temptation, Satan took Jesus to a high mountain, showed him every kingdom of the world, and named his price: bow down and worship me. Pastor Matt dug into the word. The Greek behind worship means to bow down. Jesus refused, quoting Deuteronomy: worship the Lord your God and serve him only. Pastor Matt's point is that the same offer reaches us, just broken into smaller pieces. Whoever we fall for, lower ourselves to, or submit to is who we end up worshiping. Jesus would not be moved by anything except his Father. That is the pattern he holds up.

To get started

- What is something you would find genuinely hard to give up, even for a good reason?

Looking back at the message

He said worship is not only what happens in a service. Start with that.

- 1 Pastor Matt said the word for worship means to bow down, and that we bow all week without noticing. Where do you notice yourself bowing?
- 2 Whoever you fall for, lower yourself to, or submit to is who you end up worshiping. Run your week through that sentence. What comes up?
- 3 Pastor Matt was direct that scaling back your own faith to keep someone else comfortable is itself a form of bowing. How did that sit with you? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Matthew 4:8-11 aloud. Note that the offer is real, not a bluff.

- 4 Read Matthew 4:8-10. What exactly is offered, and what is the price?
- 5 Notice that Jesus never disputes whether Satan can deliver the kingdoms. What does that tell you about how real the temptation was?
- 6 Jesus answers with Deuteronomy 6:13. What two verbs does that verse pair together?
- 7 Verse 11 says the devil left and angels came and attended him. What does that ending add to the story? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

Career, family and comfort are the honest answers here. Let people say them.

- 8 The offer came to Jesus in one piece: everything, all at once. What does the same offer look like when it is broken into small daily pieces?
- 9 What do you find yourself organizing your week around without ever having decided to?
- 10 Pastor Matt said you cannot actually help someone by neglecting your own calling and walk with God. Where are you tempted to try?
- 11 Jesus would not be moved. What would I will not be moved mean for you, specifically?

The group together

Nobody sees their own compromises clearly. That is the group's use here.

- 12 We rarely spot what we have started bowing to. How could this group help each other see it kindly?
- 13 What is something a church can end up worshipping that is not God?
- 14 What is one thing this group could refuse together?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What has quietly been given a place in your life that only God should have?

You might pray about

- For the things we have started organising our lives around
- For those under pressure to compromise something they believe
- For a faith that will not be moved by an offer
- For God to be worshipped in ordinary hours, not only on Sunday