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DISCIPLINE FOR GODLINESS

DISCIPLINE OF DEVOTION

ADORATION

The disciplines of devotion should culminate in sublime *adoration* and *worship*. This begins with a proper sense of awe in the presence of the God we know and serve.

Reverence

Reverence must always characterize our approach to God and is especially needed today in our flip-the-channel evangelical culture. Most Christians could use some of the terror that came to **Luther**, "the horror of Infinitude" that smote him at the altar — for our access to the awesome God of Heaven is real!

Along with proper reverence, *there must be concentration*. Our minds must be fully engaged. **Luther** said, "To let your face blabber one thing while your heart dwells on another is just tempting God.... Any and every thing, if it is to be well done, demands the entire man, all his mind and faculties." This is why we must give the best time of our day to devotion, when we are the freshest.

Reverence and concentration must be linked with a humble spirit which has worship as its conscious goal — to lift God up as worthy and to ascribe great worth to Him. "You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being" (Revelation 4:11; cf. Revelation 5:9–13).