

## OVERTURE

I still remember that day as if it were yesterday. Driving from Houston to College Station on March 10, 2011, my mind and heart were a mix of excitement and nerves. As the Texas countryside rolled by, my focus remained on the journey ahead. My destination: a jewelry store. My mission: to find the perfect engagement ring for my soon-to-be bride, Paige.

As I entered the store, a kind lady name Sophie, greeted me with a smile. I could tell she was a seasoned jeweler. She spoke with expertise that comes from years of experience, and she handled the diamonds with care and class. As she showcased various diamonds, she carefully explained the “Four C’s”: Cut, Color, Clarity, and Carat. Each diamond she showed had its own unique sparkle and depth. I have to admit, for this boy from East Texas, it was a lot to take in.

Then she gently placed one particularly radiant diamond against a backdrop of black velvet. As she turned the diamond, it seemed to come alive. Every rotation revealed new facets, colors, and depths that were truly mesmerizing. The diamond seemed to dance and sparkle before my eyes, and I was certain I had found the perfect one for Paige. Even though the cost would clear out my savings, I knew it was worth it. The cost of the ring and diamond paled in comparison to the significance of winning the hand that would wear it. To me, this diamond symbolized the future with Paige, and that was priceless.

## How to Spell Worship with Your Family

Reflecting on that experience, I realize there is a profound parallel between my quest for the perfect diamond and our exploration of worship. Just as a diamond reveals its full beauty when observed from various angles, worship unveils its depths when explored from different perspectives. Only when we turn the diamond do we see its true splendor. Just as I sacrificed my earthly treasures for that diamond and the lifestyle it would bring, genuine worship demands a significant personal cost. In both examples, the rewards are unmatched and unparalleled.

As you will learn in this book, worship is far more than just a ritualistic act. Some people think worship is just singing songs at a particular time in a particular place, but it is so much more. I hope to “turn the diamond” on worship and show you it is not a man-made concept like we often think, but rather the handiwork of our Creator who longs to have relationship with us. It is an intricate dance with our Creator, who longs for a genuine connection with us. It is a profound bond with God, centered on love, obedience, gratitude, and devotion. As you journey through these pages, you will see how the Triune God has a magnificent role to play in worship. You will learn how we respond with love and devotion as we join this glorious symphony of worship.

We will also take a deep dive into what worship can look like within the walls of your home. I don't claim to be an expert, but I regard myself as a devoted learner in this subject. Anything of value that I pen or voice is solely attributed to Jesus and the profound wisdom that He and the Holy Spirit bring. I have been blessed by being raised by those who have been faithful examples and mentored by those who are wise experts. I have dedicated countless hours to passionately poring over the pages of scripture while committing my life to be in lifelong pursuit of worshipping my

Savior with each breath. However, my mission isn't solely personal; I am resolved to lead my wife and children down the same path. Combine this with my desire to guide others through this worshipful journey, and you grasp the purpose and essence of this book.

I am deeply burdened by the lack of family worship in homes today, so I have felt compelled and called to write this book. My hope is to elevate your understanding of worship. Beyond this, my prayer is for these words to shape both your heart and home into a reflection of God's glory. My intention is to guide you through the principles and practices of worship. If you stick with me and invest both your energy and focus, by the end of this book, I believe the path laid out could profoundly change the trajectory of your family life, infusing your days with blessings, purpose, peace, and joy. The impact isn't just for the present but can ripple through generations to come.

That sounds like something worth investing in, doesn't it? Consider the billions who have gone before us and have also chosen this path: *worship is truly worth it.*

Let's revisit the story of buying Paige's diamond. It may seem that in our worship narrative, we play the role of the eager groom, offering everything for the gift of worship to God. However, in truth, you and I are the bride. God not only fashioned worship with unparalleled beauty; He also paid the highest price for us to experience it through the sacrifice of His Son, Jesus Christ. This cost Him His very life, all to give this gift of worship to us and invite us into an everlasting relationship with Him. Such a profound cost! Such a priceless gift!

Whether you are a parent, grandparent, student, child, educator, or pastor—whether you are married or single—this book is crafted for you. Regardless of your background, race, age, or where you're

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from, this book extends an invitation to grow and be challenged together, to dive into the scriptures, and to uncover the intricate facets of worship. It's a call to explore, to reflect, to connect, and ultimately to be forever changed by the Divine in ways we might never have imagined.

*Let's embark on this transformative journey together . . . .*

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