

**“...but grow in the grace and
knowledge of
our Lord and Savior
Jesus Christ.
To Him be the glory,
both now and to
the day of eternity.
Amen.”**

II Peter 3:18

Growing in Christ: The Goal...

**We are to grow in Christ-likeness,
being conformed to His character,
bearing fruit and
growing in good works**

Growing in Christ: The Power...

**By God's grace,
we have all of the resources
and power we need
to live a life
of perfect obedience
and holiness before God!**

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- Salvation!
- Scripture: Meaningful encounters with the Word of God!, Col. 3:16
- Abide in Christ, John 15:1-16
- Discipline Yourself Toward Godliness, I Timothy 4.
- Baptism.

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- “Latreia Living” ↔ “Worship-Service” Lifestyle
- Have Meaningful Encounters with One Another: Body-Life, Community; Serving and Being Served!
- “Mind-Control”
- Facing Temptations

Factors in Growing in Christ:

- **Enduring Trials and Suffering!**
- **Consistent Corporate Worship!**

Growing in Christ Through Loving God Supremely, and...

Loving God:

- First and Greatest
Commandment, Mark 12:28-34
- Other Statements...
 - ✓ Matt. 16:24-26, 21-23
 - ✓ Colossians 3:1-2
 - ✓ Romans 12:1-2

Growing in Christ Through Loving God Supremely, and...

Loving God:

- First and Greatest
Commandment, Mark 12:28-34
- Deuteronomy 5:7; 6:4-5

Growing in Christ Through Loving God Supremely, and Demolishing Idols

Demolishing Idols:

- Flee from idols, 1 Cor. 10:14; 1 John 5:21.

Paul David Tripp
defines an idol as...

**“It's something in creation
that claims the place
in my heart
that only God should have.”**

Growing in Christ Through Loving God Supremely, and Demolishing Idols

Demolishing Idols:

- Flee from idols, 1 Cor. 10:14; 1 John 5:21.
- Eph. 5:5, covetousness is idolatry
- Col. 3:5, greed amounts to idolatry

Growing in Christ Through Loving God Supremely, and Demolishing Idols

Demolishing Idols:

- Philippians 3:19, some men's bellies are their "god"!
- Many construct idols in their hearts, Ezekiel 14:3, 4, 7.

We are too sly and covert
to construct physical idols,

so...

we erect them
in our hearts!

It's easy for us to see where
our culture worships idols, but
when it comes to our own idol
worship, we're simply blind and

DECEIVED



Some possible heart idols...

- Family, I Samuel 2:29; Mt. 10:37.
- Privilege and position. Luke 11:43; 20:46.
- The approval of men, John 12:42-43.
- My own plans and goals, Mt. 16:22-23.

Some possible heart idols...

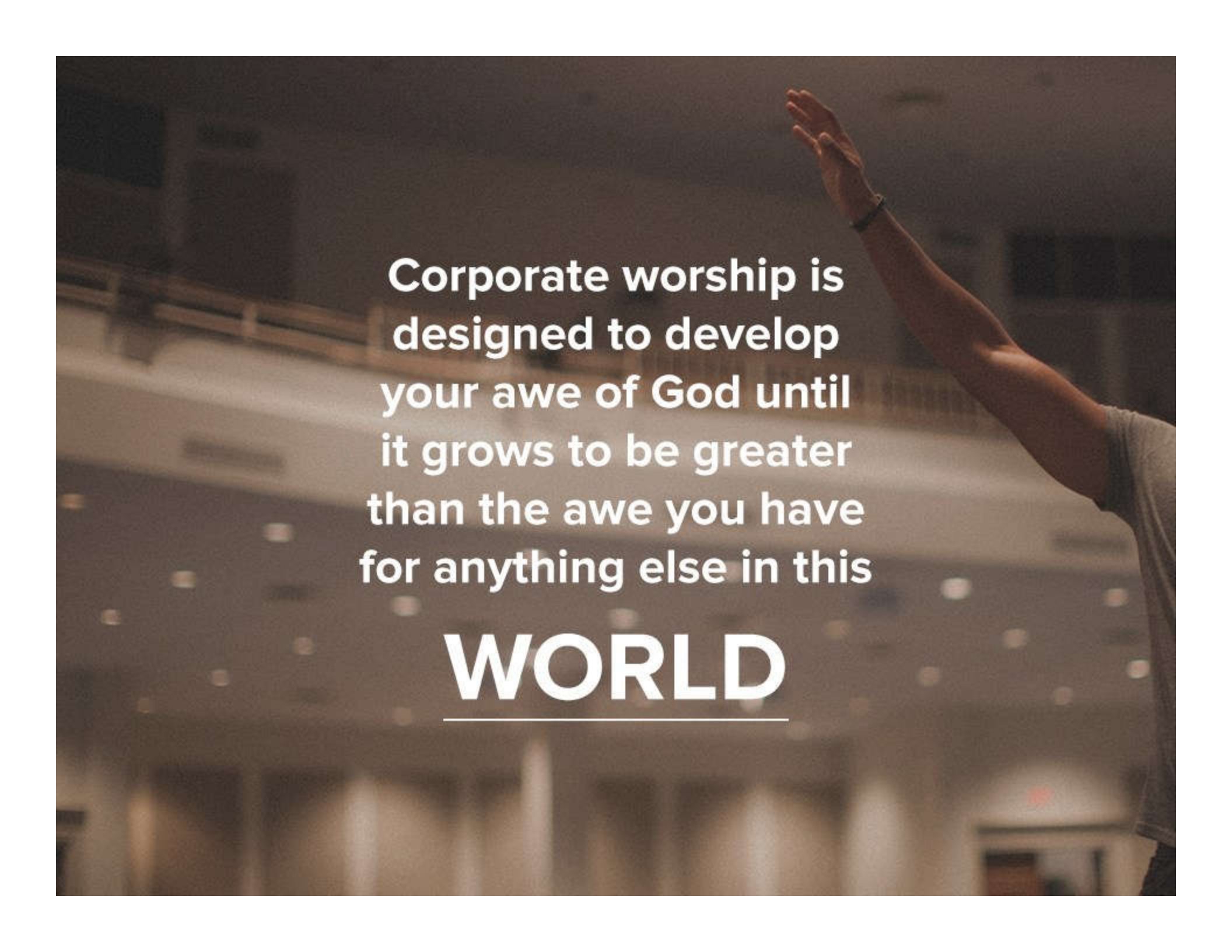
- The world, and the things in the world, I John 2:15-17.
- My Own Life, Mt. 16:24-25

“Little children,
Guard yourselves
from idols.”

I John 5:21.

HOW???

1. Determine to Love God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength!
2. ASK God to reveal to us, if we are loving something...or someone ELSE, too much!
3. Deal ruthlessly with your idols!

A photograph of a person's arm raised in a church setting. The person is wearing a light-colored t-shirt and a dark wristband. The background is a blurred church interior with a balcony and recessed ceiling lights.

**Corporate worship is
designed to develop
your awe of God until
it grows to be greater
than the awe you have
for anything else in this**

WORLD



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