

**Instructions:**

Group leaders, take some time before your gathering to look over these questions. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you pick 3-5 questions to discuss that pertain to your group's unique style and needs.



**Series: Methodism for Smarties**

Have you ever wondered what it means to be a Methodist? What do we believe about salvation or the Bible? Why do we baptize infants? Or what does it mean to be a part of a worldwide United Methodist Church? Join us this November as we dig in to scripture, our Wesleyan theology, and United Methodist polity to answer some of the most frequently asked questions about our church!

**Message description:**

Our weekly worship is foundational to our faith walk. We all bring our own personal influences to the worship experience. But how much of the design of our worship service is based on modern worship and/or traditional worship? How has the early Church, as well as early Methodism influenced our weekly worship times? And how much have we allowed ourselves to become desensitized to the sacred experience of worship?

**Key Scriptures**

*1 Chronicles 16:1-36*

**For Further Study:**

UMC Book of Worship: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/book-of-worship>

Who was Charles Wesley? <https://www.christianitytoday.com/history/people/poets/charles-wesley.html>

Charles Wesley, a gift to music: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/charles-wesleys-gift-of-music>

Charles Wesley in contemporary study: <https://www.catalystresources.org/charles-wesley-in-contemporary-study/>

John Wesley's rules for singing: <https://melodypublications.com/blogs/news/directions-for-singing-by-john-wesley>

## Questions Related to This Week's Message:

1. What do you think it means that worship is foundational to our faith?
2. What role do you see corporate worship play in your own faith and life?
3. What did you learn about our Methodist roots of worship?
4. Had you ever heard John Wesley's rules for singing found in the front of the UM hymnal? What did you make of them?
5. What is one thing you are taking away from this teaching that will impact your worship life in the future?

## Going Deeper:

### *1 Chronicles 16:1-36*

- Can you identify the four folds of worship in this passage [entrance, proclamation and response, thanksgiving and communion, sending forth]? To read more on the four-fold pattern of worship visit: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/book-of-worship/the-basic-pattern-of-worship>
- What similarities do you see in this example of worship and in what we do at Revolution?
- Our Book of worship states:  
**Our worship in both its diversity and its unity is an encounter with the living God through the risen Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit.** When the people of God gather, the Spirit is free to move them to worship in diverse ways, according to their needs. We rejoice that congregations of large and small membership, in different regions, in different communities, of different racial and ethnic composition, and with distinctive local traditions can each worship in a style that enables the people to feel at home.
  - o Do you expect to have an encounter with the living God when you come to worship?
  - o How does the Spirit empower our worship?
  - o How do you see beauty in diverse worship experiences?

## Challenge:

### Consider reading one of the resources above.

- What did you learn?
- What surprised you?
- What resonated with you or encouraged you?
- What confused you?
- What do you still have questions about?