

# the IRRELIGIOUS LIFE

experiencing the inside-out spirituality of Jesus

## Week 5: *DIVINE ROMANCE*

Closer is He than breathing.

~ Alfred Tennyson

The reason some Christians feel so fatigued and defeated is that they are holding their breath spiritually when they should be opening their hearts to God to accept the atmosphere all about them – His divine presence.

~ John MacArthur

We had better quickly discover whether we have mere religion or a real experience with Jesus, whether we have outward observance of religious forms or hearts that beat in tune with God.

~ Jim Cymbala

The devout Christian of the future will either be a mystic, one who has experienced something, or he will cease to be anything at all.

~ Karl Rahner

We do not become able to obey Jesus by trying to obey Jesus, but by becoming the kind of person who naturally does obey. That means our intention is to acquire, by intelligent effort and grace, the inward character of Jesus Christ himself.

~ Dallas Willard

It is only when people begin to worship that they begin to grow.

~ Calvin Coolidge

Worship is the mind's humble acquiescence to the fact of God.

~ Peter C. Moore

Nowhere does the New Testament pre-scribe a particular form for worship. In fact, what we find is a freedom that is incredible for people with such deep roots in the synagogue liturgical system. They had the reality. When Spirit touched spirit, forms became irrelevant.

~ Richard J. Foster

Many discussions about the spiritual journey devolve too quickly into technique and principles without fully appreciating the *relational* dynamic of spiritual growth. What we are really talking about is staying in love with the most important Person in our lives.

~ Doug Banister

Practically speaking, the Christian's worship is most profitable when it is centred upon Jesus Christ and goes through him to God.

~ Dallas Willard

If you want to celebrate – and wouldn't you? – then you know what to do. Let the Spirit fill your hearts and lives, particularly your minds and imaginations.

~ N.T. Wright

This is our great spiritual need: to be truly aware that we are in the presence of God.

~ William H. Shannon

**God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.**

~ Jesus