

BOOK SUMMARY

“Extravagant Worship” By Darlene Zschech

1. Extravagant Worshiper

- a. Her selfless display of extravagant worship changed everyone who remembers her now
- b. imagine the depth of this woman’s (Mary) tears being enough to clean the dusty feet of Jesus
- c. the cause of Christ pumping away in our veins should cause extraordinary praise to the father
- d. although music is a wonderful expression of worship, it is not in itself the essence of it
- e. your most glorious moments of worship should be off the platform when you are alone with God
- f. worship is a lifestyle, a way of life, with many facets of expression
- g. worship is a verb – to regard with great respect, honor or devotion
- h. extravagant worship is not achieved by taking shortcuts
- i. when you understand who you are in Christ, a rest enters your soul that cannot coexist with striving and struggling

2. Extravagant Worship

- a. when we, Gods people come into His presence with thanksgiving and praise, warfare is waged against our enemies.
- b. praising God with other believers releases explosive faith that frightens away the enemy
- c. Praise invades hell and excites heaven. Our praise is irresistible to God.
- d. Praise and worship breaks through all boundaries of talent and ability
- e. Praise and worship is a powerful expression of love that transcends the possibilities of music.
- f. I was twelve weeks pregnant when I found out the baby had died in my womb. The Holy Spirit said to me “sing”... and this was the last thing I wanted to do. The song that came to mind was the one we sang at my fathers funeral.
- g. no matter what you might be facing, your answer is in the arms of God.

3. Explosive Praise

- a. To mindlessly go through the motions of praise is like holding a grenade and never taking out the pin, or putting a painting by Leonardo da Vinci in a closet for storage.
- b. I have even heard praise songs referred to as the appetizers or the cocktails of the worship service. To reduce these “earth shattering victory cries” with statements like this, must sadden Gods heart.
- c. Praise and worship is prayer, it is intimate; it is intercessory; and it is powerful.
- d. The Bible dosen’t say to shout at your spouse, or your kids... it says to shout for joy! There is power in the shout!
- e. we don’t shout to get people hyped up, we do it to put action to our faith.
- f. emotional walls prevent people from entering into the richness of worship. Walls can be so confining that they do not allow the inner man to be challenged, stretched or confronted.
- g. everyone is set free when God inhabits the praises of His people.

4. Energetic commitment

- a. Obedience is one word in the Bible many Christians would like to ignore. Perhaps Abraham was eager to obey because He knew He could trust God.
- b. submission only happens when we obey even though we don’t agree with what we have been asked to do
- c. submission is habitual yielding to authority. To yield requires commitment.
- d. Obedience requires an actual follow-through and people are not great at finishing what they begin. Everyone likes quick instantaneous provision and change. Everyone wants immediate results; few people are prepared to wait, but God is a builder, not a magician!
- e. we were never called to live this supernatural life by natural means
- f. we must stand strong and say yes to God and no to ourselves, That is obedience; it requires strength and stamina.
- g. Obedience to God is not a mental discipline; it is a yielded heart to God. It is beautiful part of worship.
- h. He establishes boundaries in our lives to keep us safe because of his great love. These guidelines are actually His commitment to helping us become all that He created us to be.
- i. The goals in our lives will cost us something. The majority of people don’t pay the price that obedience requires

5. Emotional Ferver

- a. creative people are driven by a passion to express their inner dreams.
- b. our greatest emotional strengths also have the potential to be our undoing!
- c. have you ever agreed with enthusiasm to sing a song or play an instrument for a special event only to spin into depression afterward because you felt you were not so great?
- d. Ps. 88 expresses a creative persons downside where dreariness and despair go on and on.

- e. passion often releases itself in anger and negativity rather than in great things.
- f. if your negative emotions get on top of you, pessimism and passivity sets in.
- g. one of the worst effects of letting our negative emotions get on top of us is that they make us feel alienated from God.
- h. determine to be joyful and glad regardless of the circumstances around you. (Dwell on truth)
- i. surround yourself with the right people, put yourself in an environment where you are able to laugh and be lifted by others
- j. learn how to deal with disappointment. Your satisfaction for life must come from your own heart and not from applause, approval, or permission from others.
- k. commitment to building up others leads to true contentment.

6. Elegant Dreams

- a. worshipping God causes our deepest desires to come to pass.
- b. desire directs our lives and propels us toward our God given destiny.
- c. God is the ultimate dream giver, and dream fulfiller.
- d. Tommy Barnett said, “if your dream is to big, it must be from God”. If its not to big for you to fulfill, then you don’t need God.
- e. The church family that God places you in is a divine appointment.
- f. I have a definite part to play. I have to make good choices along the way, each time I do, God allows me to see a little bit of my dream.
- g. We do have to make adjustments to a degree, but in the end, we have to give it our all. All or nothing, we cant fake it. I’ve tried and I’m not good at it.
- h. It dosen’t matter where you start, trust God’s timing.
 - i. Most people put their dream on the shelf because they’re too scared and too focused on their own abilities.

7. Excellence matters

- a. Jesus chose an imperfect bunch of disciples
- b. loving Christ more than life is a basic premise of our faith
- c. your worship is fuelled by your testimony, your testimony matters
- d. an excellent God deserves excellent service, anything less would be demeaning
- e. incorrect perceptions of what church is or memories of what it was in the past have kept an entire generation out of the house of God.
- f. unity is a demonstration of Gods love, be committed to it in the local body
- g. friendship matters – excellent relationships / serving God with my friends is a secret bonus
- h. extreme generosity matters – look for ways to go outside your comfort zone
- i. discipline and determination matter
- j. for a time, the favor of God seems to cover all sorts of lousy things in our lives, but eventually we must take responsibility for the choices in our lives if we want God to trust us with more opportunities.
- k. it just takes one excellent worshiper to break rank to give everyone else permission to do the same.

8. Educate the mind

- a. the Lord said, “you never need to perform for me”
- b. don’t starve your mind for the knowledge of His truth, it may seek to be filled somewhere else
- c. the only being ever thrown out of heaven was a worshiper (Pride)
- d. the more we experience Gods love, the more we think we deserve it
- e. we must do more than “hope” someone will worship, we have to lead them
- f. church is not a vehicle to present our talents and catapult us into Christian stardom!
- g. whether you are in a position of leadership or not, someone is looking to you as an example.
- h. we cant lift up His name by trying to be cool
- i. when we are in the presence of the Lord, our hearts become transparent and honest
- j. when you worship Him, the mask is removed and the truth is revealed
- k. you may not want the layers of your heart to be exposed, that’s a scary thought. He wants to peel off any calloused layers so you can be restored. He will not humiliate or hurt you, He longs to restore you to wholeness.

9. Expect the unexpected

- a. if you expect nothing you will most likely have your expectation fulfilled
- b. true worship is not about stirring ourselves into an emotional frenzy
- c. it dosen’t work to have a team of people leading worship if they look “zoned out”, it only takes one person who looks like a zombie to be a distraction to everyone.
- d. when we audition people for the choir, first they have to be able to sing, second, they have to be able to show the joy of the Lord through their countenance
- e. extremes actually draw more attention to the worshipers than the one we worship

- f. we must ebb and flow with high praise and deep worship
- g. sovereign visitations from the Lord do happen, but don't try to manufacture them.
- h. know what your Pastor expects, keep one eye open, don't relax or sit down and dream during alter calls.
- i. distraction is a "passion killer". When the sound is too loud, it's a distraction, too soft, distracting, too warm, we get sleepy, feedback on the mics, too dark, anything can take our eyes off Jesus.
- j. don't talk too much, be genuine, no prima donnas; one girl came from a show business family and after 2 weeks she asked to be a front singer, but had to wait 3 ½ years. Then the choir director said she was too tall and sent her to the back row, and no cameras ever saw her!
- k. love the Lord more than your gift! This keeps worship in perspective.

10. Everlasting Music

Music is a powerful force, created by God to stir the core of a person like nothing else can

Songs that truly connect the spirit of man with his creator will always be birthed on the path to the throne of God.

Every now and again God breathes his anointing on a song and it finds its way into the hearts of congregations all over the world.

A Christian musician must intuitively know the difference between simply playing music and touching God's heart.

If we as songwriters are trying to write the latest greatest biggest selling album, then we've totally missed our purpose.

We are not an industry or marketplace, we are His church