



Gateway to Life Sermon Notes

"And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified." (Acts 20:32)

March 17, 2019

SHARED WORSHIP – Part 1

Introduction

There is an ever-present danger that our shared worship can become casual, mundane, and mechanical. [Matthew 15:8](#)

There are some things that corporate worship is NOT. It is not:

- a. A town hall meeting.
- b. Optional. [Hebrews 10:24-25](#)
- c. A football game or a concert. It is NOT a spectator sport.

WHAT IS THE DEFINITION OF WORSHIP?

Worship is: "Our minds attention and our heart's affection, EXPRESSED, to the living God in response to the glory of God in the Person and work of Jesus Christ." [2 Corinthians 3:18](#)

HOW DO WE WORSHIP?

"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him." (John 4:23, ESV)

1. We worship God.

"Biblical worship is God-focused (God is clearly seen), God-centered (God is clearly the priority), and God-exalting (God is clearly honored)."¹

¹ Kauflin, Bob. Worship Matters (Foreword by Paul Baloché) . Crossway. Kindle Edition.

2. We worship in the power of the Spirit.

[Philippians 3:3](#)

3. We worship in Truth. To worship in Truth is clearly described by Paul as valuing and glorifying in Christ who is Truth.

WHAT MEANS WILL THE HOLY SPIRIT USE TO WORSHIP GOD IN CHRIST?

- There should be the reading and preaching Scripture ([1 Tim. 4:14](#));
- There should be the singing Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs together ([Eph. 5:18-19](#); [Col. 3:16](#));
- There should be praying ([1 Tim. 2:1-2, 8](#)); and
- There should be celebrating the ordinances of baptism and the Lord’s Supper ([Matt. 28:19, 1 Cor. 11:17-34](#)).

WHAT GOVERNS NEW TESTAMENT WORSHIP?

“What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up . . . “But all things should be done decently and in order.” (1 Corinthians 14:26, 40, ESV)

“The church at worship before God should reflect His character and nature because He is a God of peace and harmony, order and clarity, not strife and confusion (cf. Rom. 15:33; 2 Thess. 3:16; Heb. 13:20).¹

¹ MacArthur, J., Jr. (Ed.). (1997). [The MacArthur Study Bible](#) (electronic ed., p. 1753). Nashville, TN: Word Pub.

APPLICATION

You are summoned!

1. What will you determine is more important than this summons?
2. Will you arrive late, unprepared and casually before the Most High God?
3. Will your mind's attention find object of focus that is more important than the glory of God in the Person of Jesus Christ?
4. Will your heart affection find any satisfaction in anything other than the amazing grace of the Lord Jesus Christ?

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