



Embracing God's Design For Our Life



RANDLE BAPTIST CHURCH

130 Morris Rd, Randle, WA 98377
Pastor Tim Walker

www.randlebaptistchurch.net
360-497-2061 360-880-4975

Worship Defined

“To quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination by the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, to devote the will to the purpose of God.”

– William Temple

“Worship is the state of proper existence before God... expressing love to God in a way that he can and will receive it.”

– Stuart L. Sheehan

“Worship is God-the-Spirit’s invitation to us to draw near to God-the-Father, in transparency and contrition, through an expressive overflow of our love affair with God-the-Son.”

– T. S. Walker

“Worship is a deliberate and disciplined adventure in reality.” – Willard Sperry

“In Worship we engage ourselves with, dwell upon, and express the greatness, beauty, and goodness of God through thought and the use of words, rituals, and symbols...we fill our minds and hearts with wonder at Him.”

– Dallas Willard

“A quickening Presence pervades us, breaking down some part of the special privacy and isolation of our individual lives and blending our spirits within a superindividual Life and Power. An objective, dynamic Presence enfolds us all, nourishes our souls...and quickens us in depths that had before been slumbering.”

– Thomas Kelly

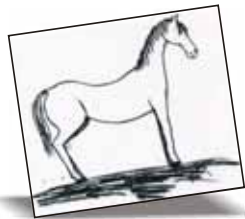
“Worship is not for the timid or comfortable. It involves an opening of ourselves to the dangerous life of the Spirit.”

– Richard J. Foster

Worship Illustrated

Scripture tells us that God’s grace is a “place in which we stand.” It is a place just past the confines of physicality where we abide in God’s presence, now and for eternity. If this place – God’s grace – can be pictured as a lush garden of rolling hills, high mountain prairies and soaring peaks, then worship is the mighty wild stallion that carries us into the hills. We must grasp some mane, kick our heels and thunder up into the majesty and wonder of Almighty God and His eternal grace.

Worship Abandoned



Originally

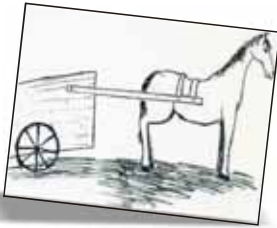
Adam & Eve were created to ride the wild stallion of worship through God's Garden of Grace.

Historically

The Church was organized to facilitate God's people drawing near to Him in worship.

Currently

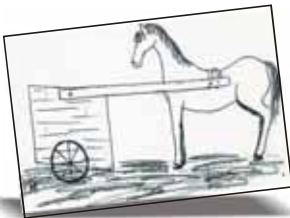
Through Jesus, we are offered a rebirth – a re-creation according to God's original design for worship.



God gave Adam & Eve everything they would need to worship Him as they walked through His hills in the cool of the day.

The Promised Land, the Temple, the Early Church, even persecution, were all God-given means to the end – Worship.

Evangelism, discipleship, fellowship, prayer, truth, etc. are the tack provided to ride our wild steed of worship.



God's forbidden fruit was a beautiful occasion for worship. But they turned it around as they viewed it a mere tool to gain wisdom & pleasure.

Judah's Kings, Rome's Emperors, the Church's Popes, & our Revivalists used worship as merely a means to an inferior end.

Worship becomes little more than program filler & spats over style and selfish preferences. Church dissolves as we try to push the cart with the horse.



Adam was denied access to abiding in God's Garden of Grace. He still had all the tack, but no horse.

Each era of Church history has its scars from surrendering Spirit & Truth worship to structure, polity & facade.

Who are we? Are we wild and zealous horsemen stealing every chance to ride off into the hills of God's Grace on Worship?



Adam built an existence of toil, heartache & death from a life that was designed & created for the inexpressible joy of worship!

History reveals this choice for God's people: either scrape out a stale existence on the cart, or go find the horse – go find Worship!

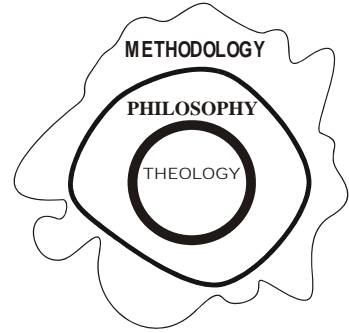
Or do we just keep building bigger barns, polishing more saddles & talking about rodeos, hoping no one will realize that we have dismissed the horse!

As we study Worship we must continually differentiate between **Theology**, **Philosophy**, and **Methodology**.

Theology is what God has revealed about worship. This is fixed like hardened steel. Though our understanding will grow, God’s revelation will never change.

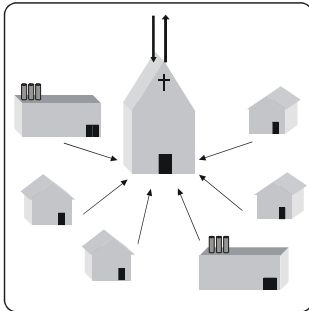
Philosophy is what we think about what God has revealed. This must remain pliable like sheet metal. As we study and implement the truth of worship, our philosophy must continue to be shaped by theology.

Methodology is what we do about what we think about what God has revealed. This must be fluid like mercury. Our theology and philosophy fall short of fruition without the implementation of methodology.



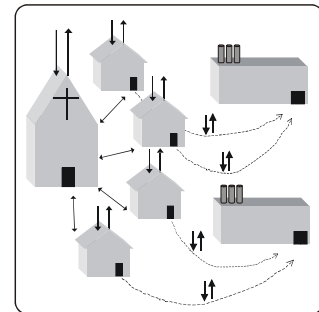
As we study God’s revealed **Theology** of worship, it must shape our **Philosophy**, which then pushes our **Methodology** out into our present context bending and filling around every turn.

Worship Accomplished

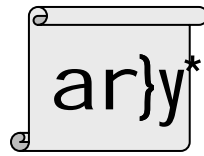


Past views have seen the local church as the hub of all worship activity. Individuals, families, and the world are invited to come to the church and its programs to hear from God and to talk to God. The results of such a view have been the departmentalization of life and the marginalizing of Christianity. “I do my home things at home, my work things at work, and I know where that church building is if I need to talk to God.”

To accomplish Spirit & Truth Worship today, this paradigm must shift. God’s Church must rediscover how to invest in families, equipping them to be worshipers and ministers of reconciliation unto worship in and through their homes. Then individual worship will overflow into family worship, which will overflow into corporate worship. Our mission: cultivate Spirit & Truth worshipers. Our battlefield: the home.



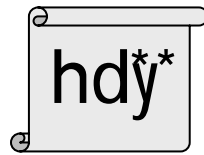
Worship Semantics – Hebrew



yârâ' yaw-ray'

To fear, revere, be afraid, to stand in awe of
To be held in awe, to be consumed in reverence
“Fear” “Terrible” “Dreadful”

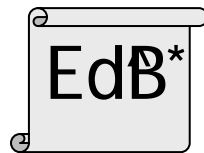
Psalm 33:6-8; Isaiah 11:2-3; Psalm 5:7; Proverbs 23:17



yâdâh yaw-daw'

An open hand indicating power, means, and direction
A hand throwing a stone or a spear
A wringing of the hands -- to bemoan
“Praise” “Give Thanks” “Glorify” “Confess”

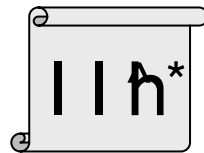
*Leviticus 5:5 & 26:40; 1st Kings 8:33-35; 2nd Chronicles 5:13;
Psalm 7:17; Psalm 30:4 & 11-12*



bâarak baw-rak'

To kneel, to give adoration, to salute
“Bless”

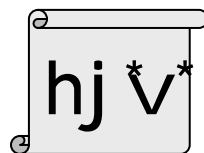
Psalm 103:1; Psalm 134:1-3



hâlal haw-lal'

To shine in brilliant color, to rave foolishly
To celebrate
“Praise” “Glory” “Boast”

Psalm 22:23; Psalm 44:8; Psalm 64:10; Psalm 105:3



shâchâh shaw-khaw'

To prostrate
Stretched out with face on the ground in reverence
To bow down to the ground
“Worship” “Bow down” “Reverence”

Psalm 66:1-4; Psalm 99:1-3, 5, 9

Worship Semantics – Greek

προσκυνέω | Proskuneō pros-koo-neh' -o

A dog licking his master's hand
To crouch toward, to prostrate oneself
(In some instances) A mere token of reverence
“Worship” Revelation 14:2, 15:4, 19:4; John 4:20; John 9:38

λατρεύω | Latreuō lat-ryoo' -o

To minister unto God, to offer gifts
Sacred services, to worship God in the observance of the rites He instituted for His worship
“Serve” “Worship” “Worshippers” Matthew 4:10; Romans 12:1; Philippians 3:3; Hebrews 9:14 & 12:28-29; Revelation 7:15

εὐλογέω | eulogeō yoo-log-eh' -o

To cause to prosper, to make happy
To bestow blessings on, a good word
To praise, celebrate with praises, to speak well of
“Bless” “Praise” Ephesians 1:3; Luke 24:50-53

εὐχάριστος | **χαίρω** | **χάρις**

eucharistos
yoo-khar'-is-tos

To be thankful
To feel grateful
To express gratitude

“Give thanks”
“Thank” “Be thankful”

chairō
khah'ee-ro

To rejoice
exceedingly

“Rejoice”

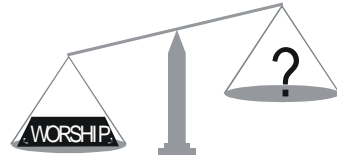
charis
khar'-ece

The divine influence
upon the heart, & its
reflection in the life

“Grace” “Thanks”
“Favor”

Ephesians 5:18-20; Philippians 4:6; 1st Thessalonians 5:16-18; Revelation 19:7; Hebrews 12:28

Worship Requirements:



GOD In our modern, idol-filled world, the obvious must be stated. We come to the altar to worship God.

Exodus 34:14; Deut. 4:15-20 w/Rev. 1:21-25; Deut. 8:19; 2nd Kings 17:36; Matthew 4:10

HOLY SPIRIT Equipped even with the greatest of intentions and the purist of hearts, we are still physical beings with physical senses trying to communicate with a Spiritual God.

John 16:13a; John 4:24; Philippians 3:3; Romans 8:26

JESUS No one has ever or will ever draw near to God except through Jesus Christ – His death, His life, His sacrifice, His provision.

John 14:6; Hebrews 10:19-22; 1st Timothy 2:5

US We must understand that God does not need us for worship and that it is a privilege to be brought into the equation of worship. Still, God seeks us to worship Him. There seems to be a genuine longing in God's heart to enter in to the covenant of worship with His children.

Acts 17:24-25; John 4:23; Isaiah 43:21; 1st Peter 2:9; Psalm 147:11-12; Matthew 13:44-46

OBEDIENCE OF FAITH To respond to the call of worshiping God we must exercise His gift of faith in our lives. This is considerably more than receiving his gift of salvation. We must, at every choice presented (Acts 17:26-27), choose to live as though God and His Word are true. These choices culminate and find expression in worship. We choose to believe God as He reveals Himself to be.

Ephesians 2:8; Romans 5:2; Hebrews 11:6; Luke 17:5-10

AWE & CONTRITION We must approach God boldly in the humility that can only come as we grasp at recognizing the great abyss between God's holiness and our sinfulness apart from Christ.

Leviticus 10:1-3; Psalm 5:7; Psalm 96:9; Psalm 34:18; Psalm 51:17; Isaiah 57:15

AN ATTITUDE OF FIRSTFRUITS The expression of love we bring before God must be from the first of our lives. He is God and demands, by His very nature, the first and the greatest. This certainly applies to physical offerings of worship, but more pointedly to our mind, heart, and will.

Genesis 4:4; Deuteronomy 26:10; Romans 12:1-2; 2nd Corinthians 9:7-8

Worship Recovered

The Negotiation: A Case Study In Life Worship

1st Samuel 15

Mt. Carmel Baptist Church was growing under Pastor Sam's leadership. An urban sprawl had moved many young families into the rural area and the church was seeing new members join almost every week. With this growth came the need for larger worship facilities, and after much prayer the church decided to form a New Site Committee to find and purchase local property. The church turned the committee loose with the freedom and the authority to just *git-er-done*, with only one stipulation. During the business meeting most of the church had sensed a directive from the Lord that wherever and from whomever they chose to buy, the full asking price for the property would be paid without bartering for a better deal.

Al had served as Chairman of the Deacon board at MCBC for several years. In addition to church leadership, his good family name had earned him high standing in the community and he was revered as a fair but shrewd local businessman. With his years of service, community respect, and financial experience he was the easy choice to head up the New Site Committee.

Eventually, the committee agreed on a beautiful yet somewhat overpriced building site, so Al set a meeting with the realtor. Driving to the meeting, Al struggled with the directive from the Church. He knew they were serious and felt confident that God had directed them not to barter, yet they had also chosen Al for his keen business sense – and a blind man could see that this property was priced too high. During their meeting, finding the realtor to be an affable fellow, Al decided that he would try to save the church some money. “After all,” he thought, “this is my area of expertise, this is the area I can shine for the church and for God, this is how I can serve Him.”

The church was elated to hear of the New Site Committee's property choice and was amazed at the low price they had paid for such beautiful land. Plans were made for a community wide potluck to celebrate God's provision and to honor Al and the Committee's hard work. Sunday promised to be a big day.

Saturday, while sipping coffee with the boys down at the diner, Pastor Sam heard rumors that Al had been involved in intense negotiations to secure a better deal for the church. “That Al, he sure is a mean son-of-a-gun when it comes to business.” “Yeah, I guess even God can't get a decent price for land around here without hire'n a pit bull dog!”

Pastor Sam was grieved as he left the diner and headed for Al's home.

What was said at Al's home?

Can Al worship again?

What would it take?

Did Saul recover a relationship of worship?

The Secret Scandal: A Case Study In Life Worship
2nd Samuel 11:1-12:13, Psalm 51:1-17, Acts 13:22

Bethlehem Community Church was a strong presence in the small, but growing area.

Pastor Dave was a fiery young preacher, well loved by his church and community. He was born in the local area and had given his life to the Lord as a young boy, essentially growing up at BCC. When the former pastor left, Dave was the natural successor and was called as senior pastor. He stepped into his new role with great skill and passion.

Pastor Dave, as well as his fellow church leaders, was a zealous evangelist. He could and would turn any conversation into an opportunity to witness for the Lord. In addition to this, he and the church had quite a reputation for taking strong public stands against social ills and injustices. School board meetings, local elections, and abortion clinic protests were regular events on Dave's schedule. Just last year when a "gentleman's" night club opened up out on the county line, he and the church camped out in the parking lot for three weeks, writing down license plate numbers— they put the club out of business. God's Kingdom was advancing!

But, Pastor Dave had a secret. One night in his church office several months earlier, while taking a break from his studies, Dave began surfing the Internet for college football scores. Before he knew what had happened, he had let his guard down and found himself exploring numerous illicit and immoral web sites. The days and weeks that followed were a series of bad choices as he strived desperately to hide his sin. He lived now as a haunted man, shackled and chained to a double life.

Bro. Nate, BCC's financial officer and chairman of the elder board, eventually discovered evidence of Pastor Dave's transgression on the church computer. He scheduled an appointment to confront Pastor Dave privately in his office.

What was said at Pastor Dave's office? Can Pastor Dave worship again?

What would it take? Did David recover a relationship of worship?

Worship Economics

Economy – The arrangement or mode of operation for the private affairs of one's household.

Seek the LORD while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near...Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you... "My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the LORD. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts.

– Taken from Isaiah 55

A four-year-old child stands near the check out stand where his father prepares to make a purchase. In awe, the child watches as Dad pulls out his old, leather wallet and reaches for

the money. He understands nothing of balance sheets, currency exchange, or the gold reserve, but he has certainly seen the magic of that green paper. "Just last week," he remembers to himself, "we came to the store without a bicycle, then Dad gave the nice lady some green stuff, and we sure enough went home with one!" Nearly entranced, the child notices that he has caught his father's eye, and with a soothing voice, knowing smile, and a reassuring hand to the back, his father hands him a crisp bill and whispers, "Son, how 'bout you buy'n this one." Oh! The smell of that leather, the warmth of Dad's hand, the smile on the nice lady's face, and the inexpressible joy of doing Dad stuff with Dad!

In the feast of worship, we have nothing to bring to the table. God provides it all. Our riches and our efforts have no purchasing power in the economy of God's worship. But, just like the little boy's dad, our heavenly Father allows us to participate in His economy. He provides for us the freedom and means to worship. We have only to receive the abundance of His joy and return it to Him in worship. Spirit & Truth worship is in God's economy and God's economy alone.

Worship Illustrated...Again





One way to understand worship is to see that God is building his children into signs (Isaiah 55:8-13). A sign that, first and foremost, reflects God's glory back to Him in worship (Mark 12:29-30) and secondarily, refracts that glory to the world (Mark 12:31). Such an endeavor is a life-long process: one that we must understand and embrace.

First, God's signs must have a firm foundation. For Jesus to have a three-year sign ministry (see John's use of "sign" in his gospel) he established thirty years of foundation. God knew His revelation would be undeniable with thirty years of groundwork (Luke 3:23-38, John 6:41-51 & Luke 4:16-30). God does this in our life as well. Sometimes the digging is miserable, the hole seems so deep, and the removal of rocks seems as though it will kill us. Many fall away here. Afraid to trust in God— fatigued by the digging and troubled in the dark — they close their heart and life to Him. Thus, they remain gaping spiritual holes across the landscape of creation. But, if we can persevere (Revelation 3:11-12; Hebrews 10:23 & 12:3-11), the result is an authenticity that renders God's reflection and refraction undeniable. And remember, God is faithful, true, loving, and kind, and promises to walk each step with us.

Next, God sets the post of His sign — leveling, tamping and concreting. He begins to develop and solidify our understanding of His revelation. Our theology and life message begins to come into focus, and we taste the first evidence of life as a sign (Luke 4:1-15). Unfortunately, many Christians abandon the process here as well. Their complacency in knowledge renders them smug, harsh, and brittle (Matthew 23). If they quit here, they will only be dry sticks in the mud of this world.

Finally, God positions our lives in just the right way to be a sign: a sign whose primary role is to maintain the orientation that faces us toward God — reflecting His glory back to Him in worship (Psalm 96:9) and refracting God's glory as a witness of His greatness to the world around us (Luke 11:29-30). Face God!

Worship & The Presence Of God

<p>God's Essential Presence </p> <p><i>God is everywhere all the time! His presence is essential for sustaining His creation!</i></p> <p>Psalm 139:7-11 Proverbs 15:3 Isaiah 43:1-5 Jeremiah 23:23-24 Revelation 1:8</p> <p>We cannot dismiss God's essential presence...</p>	<p>God's Manifest Presence </p> <p><i>God, at certain times, temporarily removes the veil of physicality to manifest Himself!</i></p> <p>Exodus 19:16-20 2nd Chronicles 7:1-4 Matthew 3:16-17 Luke 9:34-36 Acts 2:1-4</p> <p>...We cannot manufacture God's manifest presence...</p>	<p>God's Cultivating Presence </p> <p><i>God works in each of us personally & intimately to cultivate Spirit & Truth worshipers!</i></p> <p>Exodus 33:11-15 Psalm 16:11 Psalm 21:6 & 51:11 Romans 8:11 1st Cor. 3:11 & 6:19-20</p> <p>...But we must open our lives to God's cultivating presence.</p>
<p>Practicing God's Presence </p> <p><i>God's sovereignty has granted us the volitional will to open our lives to His cultivating presence!</i></p> <p>Lev. 22:3 Psal. 101:7 Rev. 3:20 Psal. 140:13 Psal. 95:2 Lev. 10:3 Jer. 5:22-24 Hag. 1:12 Zep. 1:7 Jam. 4:8-10 Acts 3:19</p> <p>As an open gate to a spring garden so must our lives be to God's cultivating presence. Come Lord and have Your way!</p>		

Worship Postures



Prostrate

*1st Chronicles 29:20; Psalm 66:4;
Psalm 99:9; Revelation 4:8-11*



Standing

*Nehemiah 9:5; Psalm 24:1-6;
Psalm 135:1-5*



Walking

Psalm 26:6-8; Psalm 56:13; Psalm 68:24-26



I don't know how to dance



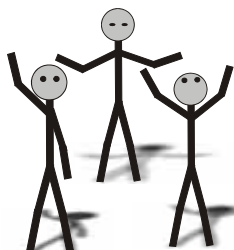
Dancing

*2nd Samuel 6:16; Psalm 149:1-6;
Psalm 150:1-6*



Clapping

Psalm 47:1-2; Psalm 98:4-9



Lifting Hands

*2nd Chronicles 6:12-15; Psalm 63:1-5;
Psalm 134; Psalm 143:6; James 4:8-10*



Sitting

Psalm 137:1; Revelation 4:4



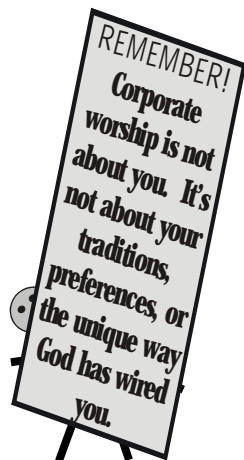
Bow Down

*Genesis 24:26; Exodus 12:27;
2nd Chronicles 29:30; Nehemiah 8:6;
Psalm 95:6; Micah 6:6-8*



Silence/Stillness

Psalm 46:10-11; Habakkuk 2:20



Worship by Faith

God designs our entire life as a series of opportunities to enter into the joy of worshipping Him!

God has made...men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their preappointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us.
– Acts 17

God has provided us with the gift of faith that affords us the choice to worship Him at each of these opportunities!

By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God.
– Ephesians 2

God has called and equipped us to exercise faith in all of life through relentless discipline!

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink.'
– Luke 17

We must recognize and embrace all circumstances as beautiful opportunities to joyously worship God!

I am the LORD, and there is no other; I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create calamity; I, the LORD, do all these things... And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose... He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness.
– Isaiah 45; Romans 8; Malachi 3

We must commit to the discipline of faith – to embrace the reality that God is in absolute control and that He is operating from His divine love!

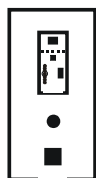
Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen...without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.
– Hebrews 11

We can then, and only then, enter into the majesty of worshipping God in the beauty of who He is!

Oh, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness! Tremble before Him, all the earth. Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns; the world also is firmly established, it shall not be moved; He shall judge the peoples righteously." Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad.
– Hebrews 11

Worship Revealed – The Mosaic Tabernacle:

God gave 3 chapters of His Word to the creation of the entire universe.
He gave 50 chapters to the Tabernacle. We were created to worship!



The details required in the craftsmanship, maintenance, and use of God's tabernacle, reveal, on one hand, the immensity of God: perfect and holy, unmarred by time and space and creation, to be feared in wonderment. And, on the other hand, it reveals the intimacy of His pursuing, personal love toward His worshipers. Let us quake at His transcendence displayed in His imminence. And may our Lord, in us, construct His holy tabernacle of worship.

Exodus 27 1-8 & 35:1-36:38; 1st Peter 2:1-10

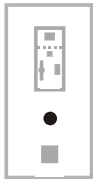


At the Altar of Burnt Offering we must embrace a soberness of mind as we are confronted by reality: no one comes to the Father except through the death and life of Jesus Christ. At Mt. Sinai, God revealed Himself to the Israelites by His own personal name and told them that if they touched the mountain of His glory they would die. And then He said to come up on the mountain. They could not, for love of the temporal and self-preservation, they could not. But Moses did, saying by his actions, "If I die, I will die one step closer to God." There on that mountain Moses certainly found what we find at the Altar of Burnt Offering. Ascending into the cloud of darkness, not knowing which step will be our last, paralyzed by fear yet spurred on by an inexplicable passion, we take one labored step after another. And just when the cloud could grow no darker it begins to clear, very little at first, but soon the light is bright, even painful. Then, as our eyes focus we see a small clearing nestled in the foothills of God's grace. And there on that small rise is a rough-hewn altar and on it lies a lamb, or is it a lion -- Oh how our eyes are struggling to see through the fear -- no, it's a Son! Standing over him in thunderous silence, our Father. He runs His fingers through His Only Begotten's hair, then His chin dips just enough to catch our gaze and instantly we are entranced. What love, what sorrow, what pain and what joy! He pierces our soul as a friend looks at a friend. And then as a single tear streams down His face, He draws His knife across the throat of His Lamb. Oh! We wrench at the horror. That look on the face of the Lamb that cries out simultaneously, "My God! My God! Why have You forsaken Me?" And "Father forgive them..." His body gasps for air as life flows down the altar and pools at our feet. If we could just run away, but grace enfolds us. We stay. We die. We live again. We worship.

20:18-21, 29:38-46;

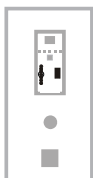
1st John 4:10; Genesis 22:1-8; Exodus 12:1-7,

Leviticus 4:32-35, 6:13; John 14:6; Romans 5:1-2; 1st Peter 1:13-21



The Laver was the last component of God's tabernacle to be set in place. It was in fact the key to survival in tabernacle life, and it reveals to us the key to survival in a life of Spirit & Truth worship. Jesus, at the last supper, essentially took His disciples back to the tabernacle. He took them to the Laver. Over one shoulder was the Altar of Burnt Offering, as "He knew that His hour had come." Over the other shoulder was the Holy of Holies, as He would soon "depart from this world to the Father." But it was at the Laver that He knew His disciples must live if they were to survive as worshipers. We live as priests within the tension that exists between salvation and eternity. If we are to endure this dichotomy and reign victoriously as worshipers, Jesus must wash us at every circumstance of life. Those priests who assumed the burnt offering alone allowed them access into the Holy Place, died. And Jesus knows that His disciples' only hope for survival is to help each other use every life event as an excuse to draw near to Him. Worship must pervade all of life. We cannot do this alone.

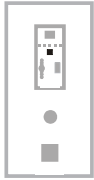
Exodus 30:17-21, 38:8, 40:1-7; John 12:3, 13:1-17; Romans 5:8-10; 1st John 1:5-7



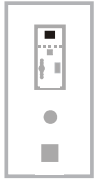
As we embrace, with soberness of mind, the reality of worship's sacrifice and engage in the perpetual baptism of life's circumstances, we begin to enter into the experiential joy of God's rest. Worshipers are known not by their musical skills, corporate styles, or personal preferences, but rather by their sole dependence on Jesus Christ for light and life. True worshipers rest in the provision, protection, and presence of the Living God. To abide in the Holy Place is to rest in God.

Exodus 25:23-40; John 1:1-13, 6:32-35, 12:46;

Hebrews 4:1-11; Colossians 1:13-18; Philippians 2:12-18



The Altar of Burnt Incense is a perpetual fragrance before God. We are that fragrance. We were designed and created for one ultimate purpose: to live amidst the presence of God in worship! Just as the strange ingredients for the tabernacle’s incense were pulled from the four corners of the earth and perfected by the art of the perfumer, so we as children of God are pulled from different walks of life, personalities, contexts, quirks, and gifts to be mixed into the purest fragrance before God. As we rest in the presence of God, then and only then, we begin to understand our design and purpose: to burn before God in unending worship! Exodus 30:1-10, 34-38; 2nd Corinthians 2:14-17; Ephesians 4:1-5:21



The design of God’s tabernacle pushes toward one end: the Holy of Holies. The atonement, the washing, the rest, and the fragrance are all in place that we might enter into the presence of Almighty God. And it is here that we are called to do nothing more and nothing less than listen. The Holy of Holies is a place of listening. Worship in its purest form is to simply listen. This was the place where Moses and Joshua listened to God. David put no veil in His tabernacle so that all of Israel could listen and worship before God. Each of the contents within the Ark of the Covenant pointed Israel back to a place of listening. Manna was a mysterious substance that only God could give and explain. Aaron’s rod was symbolic of Pharaoh’s inattentive ear and hardened heart. The tablets of covenant were a call to listen to God. The Old Testament uses one word for obedience: *שמעו*, which simply means to listen. Throughout history, God’s children have been guilty of running into the Holy of Holies to grab a little provision, power, and guidance to go, when all God wants is for us to sit down, be quiet, and have a good conversation. Exodus 25:10-22; Numbers 7:89; Leviticus 26; Hebrews 9:2-5; Romans 10:17; Psalm 46:10; Deuteronomy 6:4-6;

“Then the LORD spoke...saying...let them make Me a **sanctuary**, that I may dwell among them. According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern... By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified...Behold, the **tabernacle** of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.”

– Exodus 25, Leviticus 10, Revelation 21

Worship Revealed – The Sacrifices Of Worship’s Tabernacle

Sin Offering & Guilt Offering Leviticus 4,5& 6

Confession, repentance, & forgiveness precedes true worship.
The sacrifice is Great!

Burnt Offering Leviticus 1 & 6

Christ is the atonement & provision for life worship.
By design, worship must be intimate & perpetual.
Spirit & Truth worship is sweet & savory surrender.

Grain Offering Leviticus 2 & 6

Every-day life is the most holy place to worship.

Peace Offering Leviticus 3 & 7

God brings His worship home to our life, and in His loving mercy allows us to host Him as guest of honor.

Worship's Corporate Vision

Through prayer and preparation, we seek three goals relating to our corporate worship time:

1. To honor and glorify God with our desires, efforts, and results.

This must be an overflow from our personal worship vision. In all of life we must desire and strive to see God glorified.

2. To foster an environment that softens hearts while welcoming God's Holy Spirit to draw us (individually & collectively) into His worship.

No matter what we do, it must pass this test. At this moment are we fostering an environment of heart, mind, soul, and strength that is conducive to God's Holy Spirit having His way?

3. To showcase & practice creative disciplines for engaging in life worship.

Each of us is wired differently and can offer one another fresh perspectives on how to worship the living God in Spirit & Truth throughout all of life.

Worship's Corporate Discipline

Our weekly corporate services strive to reflect the Biblical revelation that we were designed and created for one ultimate purpose – worship. All of life must lead to worship; therefore every aspect of our corporate services builds toward worship.

This structure provides a weekly discipline for a life of worship.

10:45-11:00 – Fellowship & Church family concerns

Each of us must walk through life, but as Christians we do not have to walk alone.

11:00-11:35 – Bible Study

God will design every moment of our life to reveal Himself personally to us.

11:35 – 11:40 – Reflection & Invitation

At each revelation, we must exercise faith: God is in absolute control and this circumstance flows from His love.

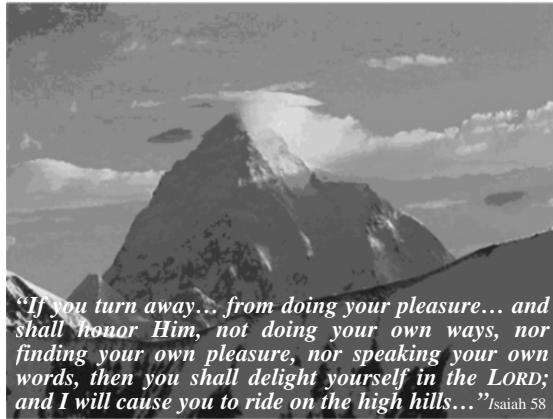
11:40 – 12:00 – Worship

And exercised faith leads into Worship!

As we continue to practice this corporate discipline it becomes a spiritual overlay from which to view and through which to live all of life's circumstances. It becomes our persistent road toward worship.

Worship Practiced – Discipleship

Mt. Everest stands 29,035 feet above sea level. A climber who is his or her life must train months prior to an ascent. At the base camp, a minimum of seven days is required to acclimate to the altitude to climb. Out of the more than 4,000 people who have attempted to reach the peak, only 660 have made it; 142 have died. If delivered via helicopter to plural spaces of your body begin to fill with fluids as you hopelessly adjust the pH and oxygen levels in your blood. You would literally drown within yourself inside of two minutes.



feet (5.5 miles) above the best shape of intensively for three days is required to before you can begin than 4,000 people peak, only 660 were possible to be the peak, the inner would immediately your system tried

In many ways, Everest stands as a towering illustration of our life in God. We were designed and created to worship God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. We were made to climb up into the hills of God's grace through worship. This requires a lifetime of training. And someday, past the confines of physicality, we will peak.

My fear is for the religious masses that have carved out a stale existence in parking lots at the base of God's mountain. We build buildings and organizations, implement programs and systematic theologies, but have we taken the Person of Jesus Christ by the hand and let Him guide us up into the hills of God's glorious worship?

For these, the dream of heaven must be a blind wish for a helicopter ride to the peak. But as the inner plural spaces of their spirit begins to drown within itself, the conversation begins, "But Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied at the parking lot in Your name, cast out demons at the parking lot in Your name, and done many wonders at the parking lot in Your name?" And then He will declare, "I never knew you; depart from me you who practice lawlessness, you who wouldn't let me take you into the hills."

God's design for our life is to Worship in Spirit and Truth. But our sin has made us complacent and slothful toward worship. If we are to embrace God's design for our life, we must begin a life pursuit. We must enter into a covenant of training, a covenant of discipleship with our brothers and sisters to build our hearts and our minds, our souls and our bodies into mighty Spirit and Truth worshippers. For God is seeking such to worship Him!