

Corporate worship

Written by Administrator

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Worship is sadly one of those areas in church life where a war is waged amongst the members. There are those who enjoy the old, others enjoy the new, and then of course the whole issue of style and body language causes remnants of the battle to lie spread all over the show on the battle front.

Maybe the biggest reason for this battle is because both sides of the trenches focus on form instead of essence, and they focus on the outward instead of the inward. The words of Christ resound over the battle plain from Matthew 15:8-9 *“These people honour me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me, in vain do they worship me.”*

One definition of worship reads as follows: “Worship is to quicken the conscience by the holiness of God, to feed the mind with the truth of God, to purge the imagination with the beauty of God, to open the heart to the love of God, and to devote the will to the purpose of God.”

At Logos we believe that worship is something we give to God. In view of God’s mercy bestowed upon us we are to render honour and adoration to God. That passion-filled, selfless, consuming desire to give to God is the essence of worship. It begins with us entrusting ourselves into God’s care as well as our attitudes and our possessions – until worship becomes a way of life. Our desire is to take the emphasis off ceremony and seasons and places and forms and to shift the focus to what is happening in the heart – not just on a Sunday but every day and all the time in all of our lives.

Paul reminds us in Romans 12:1-2: *“Therefore, I urge you brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God; this is your spiritual act of worship.”*

John Piper summarises authentic and inner heart worship in such a beautiful way. He says: *“The authenticating, inner essence of worship is being satisfied with Christ, prizing Christ, cherishing Christ and treasuring Christ.”*



Besides our true worship of God as a way of life in which we daily reflect back to God the radiance of His worth, we also gather for worship and share the following values with the rest of our members in this regard.

1. **God-centeredness.** Practicing a public worship form that communicates the supremacy of God in all of life. Going hard after God as an all-satisfying end in Himself.
2. **Bible based and Bible saturated services.** Pursuing fervent, biblical, Spirit-anointed, God-exalting, personally-helpful preaching.
3. **Emphasising the importance of both head and heart in our worship experience.** We believe that the individual must carry deep, strong, real emotions towards God without being manipulated to emotional stirrings in which there is no clear thinking about spiritual things based on Biblical truth.
4. **Communicating in large and small group settings with authenticity and transparency.** We are committed to an atmosphere of reverence, passion and wonder, rather than a shallow frivolous flippancy filled with hypocrisy.
5. **Being a singing people with growing appreciation for diverse expressions of love for God.** We believe in a balance between historic and contemporary music, as long as it

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is singable, Biblical and God glorifying. We desire to see an increase in a humble willingness to embrace others whose tastes are different than ours.

6. **Creating a place for spontaneity and lay ministry to the body.** Ministry is not just about the pulpit, but also about the pew.

7. **Commitment to a multi-cultural, multi-generational ethos at all times.** We believe there are only two groups of people, namely the saved and the unsaved. We gather to worship with the saved from all generations and cultures that are comfortable with our ethos, and we leave to evangelise the lost amongst all generations and cultures.

God exalting worship therefore takes place when we.....



- **Focus** on God alone
- **Learn** from the teaching of God's Word
- **Respond** to God with our whole being
- **Pray** with and for the body of believers
- **Sing** to each other and the Lord
- **Observe** the ordinances of the Church (Communion and Baptism)
- **Give** to the Lord and His Church
- **Serve** one another with our spiritual gifts and talents