Day 16

Worship That Honors God

Scripture Reading

Colossians 3:12–17

Key Verse

"Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you..."
Colossians 3:16

Today's Devotional

One of the greatest privileges we enjoy as believers is gathering together each Lord's Day to worship.

The early church understood this well. They met regularly for the apostles' teaching, fellowship, the breaking of bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42). Worship was never intended to be a performance observed by spectators. It was the joyful response of God's redeemed people to His saving grace.

Paul reminds the Colossians that the **Word of Christ** must dwell richly among God's people.

That phrase is worth careful attention.

True worship is always shaped by Scripture.

Our songs should reflect biblical truth.

Our prayers should arise from God's Word.

Our preaching must faithfully explain the Scriptures.

Our fellowship should encourage one another toward Christ.

When God's Word fills a church, worship becomes far more than emotional expression.

It becomes theological.

Transformational.

God-centered.

As we prepare to add a second worship service, we are not creating another event.

We are creating another opportunity for God's people to gather around His Word.

Another opportunity for unbelievers to hear the gospel.

Another opportunity for children to learn about Jesus.

Another opportunity for families to worship together.

That perspective should fill us with anticipation.

Every Sunday is a reminder of the resurrection.

Every Lord's Day declares that Christ is alive.

Every sermon proclaims hope.

Every hymn points us toward eternity.

What a privilege it is to gather together!

As you prepare for this coming Sunday, begin preparing long before you arrive.

Pray for the preacher.

Pray for those serving.

Pray for visitors.

Pray that hearts will be receptive.

Come expecting God to work through His Word.

When an entire congregation arrives praying, worship changes.

Think About It

1. How do I prepare my heart before coming to worship?
2. Do I view Sunday worship as an obligation or a privilege?
3. How can I encourage others during our gatherings?

Today's Prayer

Lord,

Thank You for the privilege of gathering with Your people.

May every worship service at Riva Trace Baptist Church faithfully proclaim Your Word.

Prepare our hearts each week before we gather.

May visitors encounter the truth of the gospel.

May believers be strengthened.

May Christ be exalted.

Amen.

Today's Fast

Fast from entertainment this evening.

Instead, spend time reading tomorrow's sermon passage or singing hymns of praise.

Prepare your heart for worship.

Prayer Focus

Pray for everyone who serves in our worship ministries—musicians, vocalists, sound and media teams, Scripture readers, ushers, and those who faithfully proclaim God's Word.