

**Intro:** Friday night and Saturday am I was away with 18 of our HS students @ retreat:  
Just need to clarify something. If when they return you hear a rumor that Pastor fell asleep during sermon time  
Not true...I was in deep prayer and meditation, with my eyes closed...slowly falling over toward Larry Fee....

**What IS True:**

We had a very interesting discussion about Worship, which was fascinating because I am speaking about that...Asked them...  
What do you think of the worship time? Band, LED colored lights, moving spots, laser lights, fog machines, bubbles, snow...  
Loved it...BUT...it wasn't worship to them. They CLEARLY saw what happened as entertainment,  
One said, "*We don't need all that stuff in worship!*" *It's a distraction...If Jesus came in...unplug and turn it all over!*

**As We Talk about Worship today, Remember where we are:**

**Series:** Living Up in a Down World: Getting our Is rearranged to Our Should!

**Move:** Church: Today, Worship 1 of 6 of the Path

**VIDEO:** What is Worship? Look at this VIDEO: I think it is a GREAT place to begin!

Who would have thought...Elvis had it right!

Worship is about Honoring and Glorifying God...but that isn't ALL that worship is!

NT has a LOT to say about worship....Just says it in an unexpected way!

- Usually Descriptive Vs Prescriptive (Only 2 or 3, 1 extensive)
- Often Described Vs Never Defined See it but don't dissect it
- Corrected Vs Not Communicated Corinth: Young; Messy; (Vegas)

Worship

1 Cor 14

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### Three Essential Components of Worship

#### 1. Worship Is Primarily About Exalting; Honoring and Declaring The Glory and Worth of God

"...So he will fall down and worship God,,,"\_14:25

#### 3 NT Words Translated Worship

Lit = to do reverence to, to adore, to exalt; to perform an act of homage (Used Here Most common word)

Lit = to feel awe or devotion, to honor in a religious way

Lit = to serve or to render religious service,

When you put all three of those ideas together, you can think of Worship as man's RESPONSE to the PRESENCE of God  
That response includes the EMOTION (Awe/Reverence) The ACTION (Service) and the HONOR (Declare Worth)  
That is what we normally think of...Worship is about God....Declaring His worth

**ILLUS:** When does that happen? USUALLY in the time of singing and praise: Raised hands, Words...Declare Worth!  
Today at End of Service; Lords Supper: Time for us to Remember and Honor!

#### 2. Worship is also about Self:

**Self:** A lot of people get upset when you talk about this, they don't understand the full spectrum of worship  
They tend to think that worship is ONLY about God. And while it is PRIMARILRY about Him, includes self  
So, it isn't COMPLETELY wrong to say, when I come to worship, I want to "*Get Something Out of It*"

When Paul is correcting the Corinthian Church's worship, and helping them to get it right, notice what he says:  
1 Cor 14:3-4 "*...everyone who prophesies speaks to men for their strengthening, encouragement and comfort.*  
*...he who prophesies edifies the church.*"

~Edify the Church: Lit = to build up, or to strengthen (often used of building a house!)

One of the GOALS in Worship, when we gather, is to build up the Church

~Strengthening: to make you stronger by building you up spiritually

~Encouragement to make you stronger by Encouraging you, speaking into; to beseech, to implore, to exhort

~Comfort: to make you stronger by Comfort, to come alongside and console, comfort offer help

So, when we come together in worship, PART of what is to happen is, we are to leave spiritually strengthened  
We are to primarily exalt God, but we are to "*get something out of it!*"

**ILLUS:** When does that happen? Usually during the Sermon, Message,  
Sometimes during the fellowship time  
Sometimes during the greeting  
Sometimes during the Commitment time

In the Foyer, or ABS Group  
Sitting in Food Court  
Backyard Bash ("A lot of Church")

### 3. Worship Includes A Sensitivity To Others.

**Unbelievers:** *“But if an unbeliever or someone who does not understand comes in while everybody is prophesying, he will be convinced by all that he is a sinner and will be judged by all, and the secrets of his heart will be laid bare. So he will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”* 14:24

There is always an element of TESTIMONY to Others in worship!

~Paul assumes there will sometimes be unbelievers present

~Paul assumes they are watching

~Paul assumes that authentic worship will be attractive to those who are seeking God!

**Illus:** Just a couple of weeks ago I was having a conversation with someone and they said: I see what is happening...and I don't think I have that yet...But I want it!

**Other Believers:** *When you come together, everyone has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. All of these must be done for the strengthening of the church.* 14:26

~Paul tells us to focus on others, not ourselves

~Paul tells us to offer what we have (talent) to the body

~Paul tells us whatever we do...we do for others!

#### **CONCL:**

There are three essential Elements we must focus on in Worship: God; Self Others

In order to do that, let me make some recommendations to you...to Help Rearrange Is to Should!

Forget the EXPERIENCE and Focus on the ENCOUNTER (Best show in town)

Prioritize God Not Personal Benefit

Get beyond Yourself!

Add any missing component: (Usually Others)

Cultivate habits that encourage worship: (Can't MAKE it happen: But CAN create the right environment!

Be Consistent

Be Prepared

Be On Time

Be Engaged:

Be Aware of others that aren't "there yet"

Be Generous: Always for God...But if that day it isn't for you...Pray for Others!