

We Are The Church

Pt. 12 - "Healthy Churches Worship Together"

Colossians 3 & Ephesians 5 | January 11th, 2026

A Working Definition of the Church

"A group of Christians who assemble as an earthly embassy of Christ's heavenly kingdom, to affirm one another as his citizens through the ordinances. To proclaim the good news and commands of Christ the King, to display God's own holiness & love through a unified and diverse people; as they follow the teaching and example of the pastors/elders & overseers.

~ Worship is such a broad topic; there are dozens of sermons that could be preached on it. This message then, will *not* be exhaustive.

~ Paul's words to the church in Colossae and Ephesus help us to see a proper Biblical picture of worship...

Col. 3:16 - *"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs*

Eph. 5:20-21 - *"addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ."*

> A definition from Bruce Leafblad: Worship is communion with God in which believers, by grace, center their minds' attention and hearts' affection on the Lord, humbly glorifying God in response to his greatness and his word.

I. The Plan for Worship: _____ for All of Life

~ The blueprints that I believe God had in mind are found two words - Worship & _____

~ Psalm 19:1 "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." Also ... Isaiah 43:6-7 - "whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

> God has not created humans to function as robots! Therefore, He will not be half-glorified (worshipped)

II. The Problem with Worship: We Identify with _____ Things

~ Wise words from Tony Reinke:

"The problem in America - and the world - we are not too pleasure-centered. No. We are not pleasure-centered enough. We settle for the world's paltry joy at the expense of giving our lives to pursue our deepest and most lasting joy...."

~ The Bible speaks on the matter of fleeting pleasures...

1 John 2:15-17 *"Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him."*

III. The Prescription for Proper Worship: We Need to Identify with _____

~ God invites us into his kingdom with immeasurable amounts of love and forgiveness. And our response is worship.

~ c.f. = John 17:5 & John 4:23-24

~ "In worship, God invites us to join him in what he is already doing. Our response is initiated by God, grounded in the reconciling work of Christ, and enabled by his Spirit."

- Bob Kauflin

Memorable Words from Bob:

1) Worship isn't _____ on us.

2) Worship isn't _____ by a musical experience

3) Worship doesn't start and stop; and it will never _____!