



*Ask questions
using the QR code!*

Understanding Worship: How God Makes Us Christian

CLASS 4: Not My Feet Only but also My Hands and My Head

Summary of study to-date:

- God's work of salvation in people's lives is a work of his Spirit that he initiates.
- The Holy Spirit conforms us to his image by feeding us spiritually on Christ by his active Word through his gift of faith.
- God chooses, at his pleasure, to work in different ways (means)—and to his means he has attached promises.
- He chooses to ordinarily use as a means of grace ministerial preaching and administration of the sacraments.
- The promises attached to the exercise of the means of grace is his active presence, sustenance, and life in him.

Regarding God's work during a sermon, what happens if a sermon is true to God's Word for 27 minutes but for 3 minutes is not faithful?

How can we encourage Christians attending churches that do not preach God's Word faithfully?

Do all Christians participate in the Ministry of the Word, or only clergy?

If God's Word does not return void, why make a distinction between the exposition of the Word in worship and out of worship?

How can we encourage Christians attending churches that do not preach God's Word faithfully?

How does God distribute grace variably by degree (not by kind)?

How can God's covenantal relationship with his people be seen in corporate worship?

How does our knowledge impact our approach to, intentions for, and expectations of corporate worship?

Abraham Kuyper, *On the Church*

We can also distinguish between what occurs within the ministry of the word and outside the ministry of the word. What is spoken outside the ministry of the word in evangelism or small group may have 3 profitable results, but it is not ministry. When the same preacher speaks at an evangelism event in the morning, And in a public assembly of believers at night, and he delivers the same speech, then the former is unofficial outside the ministry, and only the latter is ministry of the word. Ministry of the word does not necessarily take place when a preacher speaks, but only when an ordained person proclaims the word as ambassadors of Christ in the assembly of believers within the framework defined by the consistory, and the name of King Jesus invested with authority.

Ephesians 3:1-12, 4:4-7, 11-16

3 For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— 2 assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. 4 When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, 5 which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. 6 This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel. 7 Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God's grace, which was given me by the working of his power. 8 To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, 10 so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. 11 This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, 12 in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. ...

4 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. 7 But grace was given to each one of us

according to the measure of Christ's gift. ... 11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Psalm 95

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

³ For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

⁷ For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture,

and the sheep of his hand.

Today, if you hear his voice,

⁸ do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,

as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,

⁹ when your fathers put me to the test

and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

¹⁰ For forty years I loathed that generation

and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart,

and they have not known my ways."

¹¹ Therefore I swore in my wrath,

"They shall not enter my rest."