

The Oaks Community Church
Worship Guide



November 2, 2025

I. A Call to Worship

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

II Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

II. Family Confession & Greeting

1. We are Thankful for the Unfailing Love of the Lord

We're thankful for the unfailing love of the Lord. We joyfully "enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; we give thanks to Him and praise His name." God, we thank you for your goodness, your enduring love, and your never ending faithfulness.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving and His courts with praise; give thanks to Him and praise His name.

Psalms 100:4

III. Worshipping God Through Our Offerings

Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God.

II Corinthians 9:11 (NLT)



IV. The Heart of Trust & The Heart of Worship
Romans 12:1-2; I Timothy 6:6-10
Pastor Bethany Rivera

Introduction — The Question

"Do we trust God or do we trust money?"

1. Worship Is Formation

Worship is not just singing; it's where we place our **trust and love**.

Every day we are being formed—either into the **image of Christ** or the **pattern of this world**.

Romans 12:1–2 “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Romans 8:29 “For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters

2. The Christian View of Money

- **1 Timothy Background**

1 Timothy 6:6–10 But godliness with contentment is great gain. **7** For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. **8** But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. **9** Those who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. **10** For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

Jesus on Contentment

Matthew 6:25–34 “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear... But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

- Stop & Consider the Lillies

Philippians 4:11–13 “I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances... I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.”

3. The Trap of Wealth

Ecclesiastes 5:10 “Whoever loves money never has enough; whoever loves wealth is never satisfied with their income.”

- Wealth is relative—greed always moves the goalpost.

Matthew 6:24 “No one can serve two masters... You cannot serve both God and money.”

4. Disordered Loves

James K.A. Smith: “To be human is to love; our ultimate love is what we worship.”

Augustine: “Our hearts are restless until they rest in You.”

Even good things—family, work, success—can become idols when loved above God.

- Love God first, and all other loves fall into their right order.

5. Application & Reflection

- Do you trust _____ or God?
- Do you worship _____ or God?
- Are you being **conformed** to the world or **transformed** into Christ's image?

Communion — Reordering Our Loves

Reflect: "Lord, what have I been trusting more than You?"

Prayer of Response:

"Lord, I trust You. You are my provider.

You met my ultimate need through Jesus' death and resurrection.

You alone are worthy of my trust and worship."

Community Group Questions

1. Pastor Bethany asked, "Do we trust God or do we trust money?" What area of your life right now most challenges your trust in God? What does it look like to practically choose trust over control?
2. Read Romans 12:1–2. Paul says true worship is offering our bodies as a living sacrifice and being transformed by the renewing of our minds. In what ways can worship be expressed beyond singing? What might God be inviting you to surrender as an act of worship?
3. Read 1 Timothy 6:6–10. Paul writes that "godliness with contentment is great gain." How does this contrast with what our culture defines as "gain" or success? What helps you cultivate contentment?
4. Read Matthew 6:25–34. Jesus says, "Do not worry... Seek first His kingdom and His righteousness." What does seeking His kingdom first look like in daily life—especially around money, work, or security?
5. Augustine said, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in You." What are some "good things" that can become "ultimate things" in your life—things that might take God's rightful place? How can we keep our love for God above all else?
6. What would it look like to say, "God, I trust You" in that area this week? How can your group pray for or support you in that?
7. End in prayer for your FRANCES.



Thank you for your generous giving to the ministry of The Oaks. Your prayers and giving are changing lives.

YTD Budget Need: \$313,730

YTD Tithes & Offering: \$254,673



Scan here to access wordly.

Translations in over 60 different languages.

The Oaks Community Church
10200 Campus Park Drive // Bakersfield, CA 93311
661-663-3888 // www.theoaksweb.com //
Email: tocc@theoaksweb.com

Text us to let us know that you are here today or with any prayer request that you have: 661-241-3408.