



SESSION 1: WHAT IS WORSHIP?



If we have a desire to worship God aright, we must remember how great he is.
John Calvin

*Resolution One: I will live for God.
Resolution Two: If no one else does, I still will.*
Jonathan Edwards

Are you gripped by the mercy of God? If not, you will never worship him. An understanding of God's mercy to us is the fuel that energizes and empowers our worship in all parts of life.
Vaughan Roberts



Books

- *True Worship* (Vaughan Roberts)
- *Counterfeit Gods* (Tim Keller)
- *Knowing God* (J.I. Packer)
- *The Air I Breathe* (Louie Giglio)
- *Romans 8 – 16 For You, chapters 7 – 12* (Tim Keller)
- *The Expulsive Power of a New Affection* (Thomas Chalmers)

Online

- *God Invites us to Enjoy Him* (C.S. Lewis)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources111
- *The Grand Demythologizer: The Gospel and Idolatry* (Tim Keller, video)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources112



SESSION 2: THE FOUNDATION OF WORSHIP



The gospel centers on Jesus. It is about a person, not a concept; it is about him, not us. The gospel is both a declaration of Jesus' perfect rule, and an invitation to come under that perfect rule, to make him our Lord.

Tim Keller

The basic operation principle of the gospel is ... one of unmerited acceptance: 'I am accepted by God through Christ; therefore, I obey.' To truly understand this ... at a life-altering level requires that the gospel be explored and 'looked into' at every opportunity and in regular, systematic ways.

J.D. Greear

Man's only righteousness is through the mercy of God in Christ, which being offered by the gospel is apprehended by faith.

John Calvin



Books

- *Christ-Centered Worship* (Bryan Chappell)
- *What is the Gospel?* (Greg Gilbert)
- *The Gospel* (Ray Ortlund)
- *Explicit Gospel* (Matt Chandler)
- *Honest Evangelism, chapter 5* (Rico Tice)

Online

- *The Centrality of the Gospel* (Tim Keller)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources121
- *What is a Gospel-Centered, Missional Church, and Why Do We Need One?*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources122



SESSION 3: WORSHIP AND GOD'S WORD



The most important thing a pastor does is stand in a pulpit every Sunday and say, 'Let us worship God.' If that ceases to be the primary thing I do in terms of my energy, my imagination, and the way I structure my life, then I no longer function as a pastor.

Eugene Peterson

The most valuable thing the psalms do for me is to express the same delight in God which made David dance.

C.S. Lewis

Worship is the believer's response of all that they are—mind, emotions, will, body—to what God is and says and does.

Warren Wiersbe



Books

- *Taking God at His Word* (Kevin DeYoung)
- *Can we Really Trust the Bible?* (Barry Cooper)
- *Expositional Preaching* (David Helm)
- *Creature of the Word* (Matt Chandler, Eric Geiger & Josh Patterson)

For Daily Devotional Bible Reading

- *For the Love of God* (Don Carson)
- *Explore: For your Daily Walk with God* (Various, search for "Explore Daily Devotional")

Online

- *Six Reasons Not to Abandon Expository Preaching*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources131
- *Is Preaching Still Relevant?* (video) gospelshapedchurch.org/resources132



SESSION 4: THE WORSHIP SERVICE



Corporate worship is a regular gracious reminder that it's not about you. You've been born into a life that is a celebration of another.

Paul David Tripp

God is to be praised with the voice, and the heart should go therewith in holy exultation.

C.H. Spurgeon

Worship songs can't just be rooted in culture—they won't be deep enough. They have to be rooted in Scripture.

Matt Redman



Books

- *Rhythms of Grace* (Mike Cospers)
- *Worship by the Book* (ed. Don Carson)
- *Preaching the Cross (Together For The Gospel)*
- *The Divine Commodity* (Skye Jethani)
- *Worship Matters* (Bob Kauflin)
- *Gravity and Gladness (DVD curriculum)* (John Piper)

Online

- *Better Church: The Why and How of Running Sunday Meetings*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources141
- *Gospel-Centered Congregational Worship: The Essentials* (video)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources142
- *Heart Issues for Worship Leaders* (video)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources143



SESSION 5: WHY AND HOW WE PRAY

“Prayer is that apparently useless activity, without which all activities are useless.

Simon Barrington-Ward

Human beings were put on the planet to depend upon their Creator.

John Piper

“Daddy.” This is how Christians can approach the all-powerful Creator of the universe, who sustains every atom in existence moment by moment!

Tim Keller”

Books

- *Valley of Vision: A Collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions* (ed. Arthur Bennett)
- *Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God* (Tim Keller)
- *A Praying Life* (Paul Miller)
- *Bible Prayers for Worship* (Michael Perry)

Online

- *Public Prayer* (John Newton): gospelshapedchurch.org/resources151
- *On the Use and Importance of Corporate Prayer* (Mark Dever)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources152
- *Developing a Praying Church* (video)
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources153



SESSION 6: DEVELOPING A CULTURE OF GRACE

The highest form of worship is the worship of unselfish Christian service. The greatest form of praise is the sound of consecrated feet seeking out the lost and helpless.

Billy Graham

The church is Christ's answer to pride. Being part of a church encourages us, sometimes forces us, to not think about ourselves too much. It makes us think about others more. It provokes us to rely on Christ increasingly. It provides others to cut us down to size when we need it, and build us up when we need it.

John Hindley

Books

- *Note to Self* (Joe Thorn)
- *Life Together* (Dietrich Bonhoeffer)
- *Loving the Way Jesus Loves* (Phil Ryken)
- *Total Church* (Steve Timmis & Tim Chester)
- *Serving Without Sinking* (John Hindley)
- *Gospel Wakefulness* (Jared Wilson)

Online

- *Create a Contrast Culture in your Church*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources161
- *Brothers, Build a Gospel Culture:* gospelshapedchurch.org/resources162



SESSION 7: BEING CHURCH

Jesus did not save you to be a lone ranger; he saved you to live as a church member and enjoy eternity in his city, living with others.

Mike McKinley

How we do church reflects how much we value Jesus. The more we see how wonderful he is, the more we will love being part of his church, a small stone in the great grandeur of God's cosmic, eternal building.

Ray Ortlund

Books

- *The Deliberate Church (Mark Dever & Paul Alexander)*
- *Gospel-Centered Church (Steve Timmis & Tim Chester)*
- *Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus (Mack Stiles)*
- *Jesus-Driven Ministry (Ajith Fernando)*
- *What is a Healthy Church Member? (Thabiti Anyabwile)*
- *The Prodigal Church (Jared Wilson)*

Online

- *How to get a Real Honest Community*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources171
- *Saved by a Community, For a Community*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources172
- *The Insufficiency of Small Groups for Discipleship*
gospelshapedchurch.org/resources173