

A Study of the Church: Equipping the saints for the work of the ministry

- **What is the church?**
 - Collection of believers
 - Indwelling Holy Spirit
 - Union with Christ
 - Began at Pentecost
 - Local gathering of believers

- **What is the church suppose to be doing?**
 - Equipping the saints for the work of the ministry

- **How does the church equip the saints?**
 - Baptism
 - Lord's Supper
 - Preaching
 - Praying

- **How is the church organized for this work?**
 - Elders and deacons
 - Teaching/preaching
 - Serving
 - Discipline – moral and doctrinal purity

- **What is the work of the ministry?**
 - Worship
 - Singing
 - Giving/stewardship
 - Disciples of Jesus
 - Love
 - Serving the weaker brother
 - Others – witnessing, praying . . .

Worship

- **The primary work of ministry**
 - Comprehensive
 - Fundamental to all works
 - Necessary for all true works
- **A misunderstood concept**
 - Not a meeting
 - Not produced
 - Not essentially collective
- **The worship of God in Scripture**
 - It is a duty of God's people.
 - It is demonstrated in Scripture.
 - Elements of worship are described

Definitions

- **Praise**
To proclaim merit or worth
Human
Divine
- **Honor**
To esteem or respect; a good reputation
Human
Divine
- **Serve**
To do work for someone
Human
Divine
- **Love**
Unselfish, loyal or benevolent concern for the well-being of another
Human
Divine

Worship and the language of Scripture

- **English definition**

- The reverent love and devotion accorded a deity, an idol, or a sacred object.
- Ardent devotion; adoration.

- **Biblical language**

Hebrew – SHACHAH

bow down, crouch, fall down (flat)

a sense of the magnificence of the one before whom we bow.

Translated as worship most often but also as bow down, or fall

Greek

Verbs – several words

PROSKUNEIO – worship

SEBOMAI – to revere, stressing the feeling of awe or devotion

SEBAZOMAI – to honor religiously (Romans 1:25 only)

LATREUO – to serve; to render religious service or homage

EUSEBEO – to act piously toward

- **Definition:**

to bow down before God in adoration of God
submission as a servant

Worship in Scripture

- **The first worship service**

Genesis 22:5

Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice

- Submission
- Faith
- Sacrifice

- **Worship and serving**

Matthew 4:10

Deuteronomy. 11:16; 30:17; 1 Kings 9:6; 2 Chron. 7:19; Jer. 25:6

- **Worship and sacrifice**

Hebrews 9:1, 9, 21

2 Chron. 32:12; Ezra 4:2; Isaiah 19:21

- **A coming universal worship**

Psalms 22:27

Isaiah 66:23

Principles of worship from Scripture

- **Worship of God is exclusive** – Exodus 20:1-7
- **Worship of God is unique** – Deuteronomy 12:29-31
- **Worship of God recognizes His glory/attributes** – Psalm 29
Ascribing His glory to Him = recognizing and naming His attributes.
 - Power (29:3-4)
 - Providence (29:9)
 - Dominion (29:10)
 - Savior (29:11)
- **Worship of God is in holiness** – Psalm 29
- **Worship of God is from the heart** – Matthew 15:7-9
- **Worship of God is not humanistic** – Matthew 15:7-9
- **Worship of God is spiritual – not limited to a location** – John 4:19-24
- **Worship of God is eternal** – Revelation 11:16-18
 - Power
 - Dominion
 - Salvation

O Worship the Lord!

- **Worship of God is private**
- **Worship of God is a life**
- **Worship of God is a mark of a believer**
- **The duty: worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness**
- **Romans 12:1-2**
 - A living sacrifice
 - Holy/ transformed
 - A spiritual act of worship