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
    PROSKUNEÔ – worship
    SEBÔMAI – to revere, stressing the feeling of awe or devotion
    SEBAZÔMAI – to honor religiously (Romans 1:25 only)
    LATREUÔ – to serve; to render religious service or homage
    EUSEBÊBO – 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
  Psalm 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