

Corporate Worship

It is so easy to reduce corporate worship to music and singing. And while that is an intricate part of worship it is much more. The following ideas are offered to bring a refreshing focus on Christ in our corporate worship.

- 1) Read lengthy Scripture passages
- 2) Read responsively (worship leader/church; men/women; first section/second section; reader-1/reader-2/reader-3)
- 3) Write and read an original Psalm (invite the church to write one)
- 4) Explain the worship passage by the worship leader
- 5) Read a prayer (Book of Common Prayer; Devotional Prayers-Henry Thorton)
- 6) Read a prayer in unison
- 7) Read a passage from a devotional writer that brings us to worship (A.W. Tozer; John Piper; Max Lucado; Oswald Chambers; John Eldredge; J.C. Ryle; Jonathan Edwards; C.H. Spurgeon; Isaac Watts; Andrew Murray)
- 8) Spend time in silence
- 9) Pray prayers of worship (Elders; deacons; worship leader(s); saints of all ages)
- 10) Pray sentence prayers among the assembly
- 11) Kneel/Bow during prayer
- 12) Give personal testimony exalting one of God's attributes
- 13) Focus on various topics of Worship (God's attributes; God's names; "in Christ" passages; names of Christ; description and work of Christ; worship passages)
- 14) Join hands in prayer
- 15) Recite Lord's prayer/creeds
- 16) Pray simultaneous prayers
- 17) Pray in foreign languages
- 18) Sign a prayer
- 19) Observe the Lord's table
- 20) Use symbols in worship that reflect aspects of Christ (light candles; break bread; display first fruits; palm braches; vine)
- 21) Quote Scripture or sing without instrumentation in a processional to the meeting place
- 22) Use video/DVD clips (nature scenes; worship services; preaching – these must be approved for showing to audiences)
- 23) Encourage spontaneous reading from the church body
- 24) Incorporate worship banners
- 25) Highlight expressions of worship (From the Psalms: Boast 34:2; Declare 22:22; Exalt 40:16; Extol 111:1; Glorify 86:9; Honor 22:23; Love you 18:1; Praise 149:1,3,6,9; Proclaim 68:34; Rejoice 97:12; Revere 33:8; Sing 59:17; Shout aloud 95:1; Tremble 96:9; Trust 52:9; Worship 99:5,9)
- 26) Highlight character of God (From the Psalms: Awesome 47:2 Faithful 40:10; Glory 63:2; Good 118:1,29; Great 104:1; Holy 99:3,5,9; Just 67:4; Love 136:1-3; Majesty 145:5; Might 21:13; Power 68:34; Righteous 7:17; Splendor 148:13; Truth 40:10)
- 27) Highlight descriptions of God (From the Psalms: Cover 91:4; Ever Present Help in Trouble 46:1; Fortress 71:3; Deliver 40:17; Dwelling Place 90:1; Guide 48:14; Hiding Place 32:7; Horn of My Salvation 18:2; My Light 27:1; My Salvation 27:1; Portion 119:57; Rampart 91:4; Redeemer 78:35; Refuge 91:1; Rock 71:3; Shepherd 23:1; Shield 84:9,11; Strong Refuge 71:7; Strength 46:1; Stronghold 18:2; Strong tower 61:3; Sun 84:11; Support 18:18; Under His Wing 91:4)