

I. Philosophy of Worship (Praise Band)

We were created to worship God. In heaven that is what we will do for all of eternity. Worship is the corporate expression of the delight, awe, and thankfulness that come from knowing our God and Savior. God Himself must reveal the way of approaching God in worship to us. Worship means to bow before the Lord in awe of His majesty. It also means to draw close in intimacy. To sit at His feet, gaze up into His face, and experience His love.

II. Instructional Goals and Biblical Truths

Psalm 100:2 says: "Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs." The goal in this course is show that we worship the Lord who gave us our talents and abilities and not the talents in and of themselves. Also, we will learn how to lead others to communicate with the Lord.

1. Worship should be totally centered upon God alone.

You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, (Exodus 20:5)

Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God. (Exodus 34:14)

Exalt the LORD our God and worship at his footstool; he is holy. (Psalm 99:5)

2. Our worship is a two-way conversation – as we worship God, He blesses us.

"I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. (Genesis 12:2)

I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. (1 Corinthians 9:23)

3. We worship in everything we do.

So if you faithfully obey the commands I am giving you today—to love the LORD your God and to serve him with all your heart and with all your soul-¹⁴ then I will send rain on your land in its season, both autumn and spring rains, so that you may gather in your grain, new wine and oil. (Deuteronomy 11:12-14)

"Remember, O LORD, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. (2 Kings 20:3)

4. We do not worship on a time schedule. Quality worship can't be rushed, but quantity doesn't mean quality.

Also at your times of rejoicing—your appointed feasts and New Moon festivals—you are to sound the trumpets over your burnt offerings and fellowship offerings, and they will be a memorial for you before your God. I am the LORD your God." (Number 10:10)

Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. (John 4:23)

5. We give God our very best; our time, money and talent.

If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen. (1 Peter 4:11)

You must present as the LORD's portion the **best** and holiest part of everything given to you. (Numbers 18:29)

6. We spend time in practice so we can play and sing skillfully.

Sing to him a new song; play skillfully, and shout for joy. (Psalm 33:3)

So Saul said to his attendants, "Find someone who plays well and bring him to me." (1 Samuel 16:17)

7. We lead others in worship so they may draw closer to God.

And a better hope is introduced, by which we draw near to God. (Hebrews 7:19)

The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming—not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship. (Hebrews 10:1)

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water. (Hebrews 10:22)

8. Our worship ministry is always growing; reflecting our own spiritual growth.

But those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. (Isaiah 40:31)

For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign LORD will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations. (Isaiah 61:11)

And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, (Colossians 1:10)

2 Peter 3:18

But **grow** in the grace and knowledge of our **Lord** and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and forever!