

Grace Church of Orland Membership Class
Part 3, The Worship of the Church

- I. The Definition of Corporate Worship

- II. The Priority of Corporate Worship
 - a. The single most God-glorifying event in the universe (Eph 3:10).

 - b. The gathered church is the single greatest means of grace in the Christian life (1 Cor 12:7; Heb 3:13).

- III. The Purpose of Corporate Worship
 - a. The argument of 1 Corinthians 14.

 - b. What about unbelievers who visit (i.e., “seekers”)?

- IV. The Rule for Corporate Worship
 - a. Can we design our own worship? (Ex 20:4)

 - b. Our tendency to “fleshly worship” (Col 2:18–23).

- c. Learning from Nadab and Abihu (Lev 10:1–3).
- d. The sufficiency of Scripture (Deut 12:32; 2 Tim 3:16–17).
- e. The regulative principle.

“The acceptable way of worshipping the true God, is instituted by himself, and so limited by his own revealed will, that he may not be worshipped according to the imagination and devices of men, nor the suggestions of Satan, under any visible representations, or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures.”
(1689 London Baptist Confession, 22.1)

V. The Elements of Corporate Worship

- a. Scripture Reading (1 Tim 4:13; Col 4:16; 1 Thess 5:27)
- b. Expository Preaching (1 Tim 4:13; 2 Tim 4:2)
- c. Corporate Prayer (1 Tim 2:1–8)
- d. Believer’s Baptism (Matt 28:19; Rom 6:1–4)
- e. Lord’s Supper (1 Cor 11:23–34)
- f. Congregational Singing (Eph 5:19; Col 3:16)