

Principles of True Worship

- It's not about us, it's about God!
- It's not about our likes or preferences, it's about reverence, honoring and respecting God!
- It's not about music that stirs the soul or that speaks to our cultural heritage, it's about reverent music that shows our dependence on and surrender to God and encourages others to do the same! (see attached sheet of songs for examples)
- It's not about entertainment, it's about worship!
- It's not about outward attire, spending time on our outward appearance, it's about heart preparation, confession, repentance and reformation that prepares us to meet our God!
- It's not about religious formalities, traditions and rituals, it's about a lifestyle that's honoring to God, reflecting His definitions of love, justice, and mercy, and participating with Him for the salvation of souls.

The Sanctuary

The sanctuary is unique and different from the rest of the church building. It should be considered as the Most Holy Place in the Old Testament Temple. It is where God's awesome presence may be found (if the worshippers and service are of the right style).

- We enter the sanctuary with heart preparation and prayer.
- We enter the sanctuary with reverence and quietness, seeking His presence.
- We teach our children to respect and reverence the sanctuary.
- It is not a place for general or social conversation.
- It is not a place for noise.
- It is not a place for utilizing Satan's rhythms or the music of the world.
- When visitors come, do they see us, or do they see Jesus?

Sermons

- Messages should not be to coddle us, they are to prepare and strengthen us to serve as Christ did, to participate with Him in the salvation of souls.
- If all we do is go home afterwards and say, "That was a great sermon" and it doesn't induce us to "to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10) then the messenger and/or hearer has failed.
- As you listen to a sermon, always ask yourself, "how can I apply this to what I need to do?"
- Church members are to serve God's purpose for His church, not their own.
- Humility, faith, purity, love for the poor should be reflected in our lives. Remember it is our actions, not our intent, that counts. Intent cannot quench thirst, intent cannot feed, intent cannot clothe. One must do.

Music

- While the instruments in themselves are not sinful, God is not honored by praise bands include the traditional guitar, bass, drum combination. It is the music style

that reflects the world and lessens the sense of awe and reverence that God desires of his worshippers.

Humor

- While we all love humor, if used within the worship service, it lessens the worship experience by reducing our sense of awe and reverence of the Almighty. The high priest would not use humor in the sanctuary service of the Bible. No record of Jesus is found where He used humor to teach a point; parables and stories yes, humor no. Save humor for another place.

Better to have few worshippers worshipping in Spirit and in truth, than many who simply show up to be entertained.

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, **Fear God, and give glory to him;** for the hour of his judgment is come: and **worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.** And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Revelation 14:6-8

God's judgments have begun to fall on the earth. Vial after vial is being poured out. God is seeking those who will do the preparation work necessary to meet Him.

Reverent Songs

Sung by angels or the righteous in Ernie's dreams

Nearer, My God, To Thee

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee.
Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

Refrain

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
darkness be over me, my rest a stone.
yet in my dreams I'd be nearer, my God to thee.

Refrain

There let the way appear, steps unto heav'n;
all that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
angels to beckon me nearer, my God, to thee.

Refrain

Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
so by my woes to be nearer, my God, to thee.

Refrain

Or, if on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I'll fly,
still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to thee.

Refrain

There in my Father's home, safe and at rest,
there in my Savior's love, perfectly blest;
age after age to be, nearer my God to thee.

Refrain

**Nearer, My God, to Thee* lyrics written by Sarah F. Adams
DREAM: ONLY ONE PLACE TO BE

In the heart of Jesus

In the heart of Jesus, there is love for you,
Love most pure and tender, love most deep and true;
Why should you be lonely, why for friendship sigh,
When the heart of Jesus has a full supply?

In the mind of Jesus there is thought for you,
Warm as summer sunshine, sweet as morning dew;
Why should you be fearful, why take anxious thought,
Since the mind of Jesus cares for those He bought?

In the field of Jesus there is work for you;
Such as even angels might rejoice to do;
Why stand idly sighing for some life-work grand,

While the field of Jesus seeks your reaping hand?
In the home of Jesus there's a place for you;
Glorious, bright, and joyous, calm and peaceful, too;
Why then, like a wanderer, roam with weary pace,
If the home of Jesus holds for you a place?" *

**In the Heart of Jesus* lyrics written by Alice Pugh
DREAM: IN THE HEART OF JESUS

Just as I Am

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidst me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, and waiting not
to rid my soul of one dark blot,
to thee whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come. *

**Just as I Am* lyrics written by Charlotte Elliott
DREAM: TWO CARS

Lord, lift me up

I'm pressing on the upward way,
New heights I'm gaining every day;
Still praying as I onward bound,
"Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

Refrain

Lord, lift me up, and I shall stand
By faith, on heaven's tableland;
A higher plane than I have found;
Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.

My heart has no desire to stay
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;
Though some may dwell where these abound,
My prayer, my aim is higher ground.

Refrain

I want to live above the world,
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;
For faith has caught all joyful sound,
The song of saints on higher ground.

Refrain

I want to scale the utmost height,
And catch a gleam of glory bright;
But still I'll pray till heaven I've found,
"Lord, lead me on to higher ground."

Refrain *

**I'm Pressing on the Upward Way* lyrics
written by Johnson Oatman, Jr.
DREAM: AMAZING FACTS

Whiter than Snow

Lord Jesus, I long to be perfectly whole;
I want Thee forever to live in my soul;
Break down every idol, cast out every foe;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Refrain

Whiter than snow, yes, whiter than snow;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

Lord Jesus, look down from Thy throne in the skies,
And help me to make a complete sacrifice;
I give up myself, and whatever I know;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Refrain

Lord Jesus, for this I most humbly entreat;
I wait, blessed Lord, at Thy crucified feet,
By faith, for my cleansing; I see Thy blood flow;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Refrain

Lord Jesus, Thou seest I patiently wait;
Come now, and within me a new heart create;
To those who have sought Thee, Thou never said'st No;
Now wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.
Refrain **

**Lord Jesus, I Long to Be Perfectly Whole lyrics
written by James Nicholson
DREAM: AMAZING FACTS

Abide with Me

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me!

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou, who changest not, abide with me!

I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!

I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
Where is death's sting? where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!*

**Abide With Me* lyrics written by Henry F. Lyte
DREAM: COME ASIDE AND UNIFY

I Surrender All*

All to Jesus I surrender;
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

Refrain:

I surrender all,
I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Humbly at His feet I bow,
Worldly pleasures all forsaken;
Take me, Jesus, take me now.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power;
Let Thy blessing fall on me.

All to Jesus I surrender;
Now I feel the sacred flame.
Oh, the joy of full salvation!
Glory, glory, to His Name!

*Judson W. Van DeVenter, 1896
DREAM: SMOOTH SAYINGS OR SURRENDER

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

O soul, are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's a light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free!

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.

Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
Over us sin no more hath dominion—
For more than conquerors we are!

His Word shall not fail you—He promised;
Believe Him, and all will be well;
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

**Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus* lyrics written by Helen H. Lemmel
DREAM: WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING?