



Sermon Notes: The Foundations of Worship

1. The priority of worship.

2. The prelude to worship.

3. The pattern of worship.

4. The practice of worship.

1) Commemorating.

2) Offering.

3) Working.

4) Praising.

5. The perfection of worship.



Gospel Applications: The Foundations of Worship

Discuss.

1. When trial or tragedy strikes, what's your typical first reaction? What's the first thing you usually do to try to make things better?
2. "Whatever you focus on, whatever you allow to preoccupy your heart and mind, will become bigger to you – and will eventually control you." Reflect on a time this played out in your life. Share some places where the Bible teaches this principle. Discuss a Gospel-shaped response to the truth of this principle.
3. Have you ever sensed that your sin was hindering your worship and enjoyment of God? Based on Scripture, is that nagging feeling true or false?
4. We don't have an altar and burnt offerings today. So how do we approach a holy God in order to know him, worship him, and enjoy him?
5. Who or what is setting the patterns of worship that many in our modern churches copy? What are some negative consequences of this?
6. What are some of your favorite practices of worship? Why do you think you default to these?
7. Of the four practices of worship mentioned in the message, which comes most naturally to you? Which is the most difficult (or the one you just don't think of as "worship")? Discuss.
8. What are we focused on when we "despise the day of small things"? What are some small things in your life, our church, and our city right now? How does this text train you to think about those small things?

Pray.

1. Confess whatever this message has surfaced in your life that's out of step with God's purposes for worship. What wrong priorities, patterns, or practices should you repent of? What fears or frustrations keep you from worshiping in the first place?
2. Praise the Lord for the promise of his presence: "Work, for I am with you!" Praise Christ for being the last sacrifice and the true temple. Ask him to reveal to you the ways you can embrace a lifestyle of worship this week.