

☆ Shepherd's Voice ☆

Orcutt Christian Church Newsletter



Committed to Excellence in Communicating Biblical Truth and Its Application

The Minister's Musings Bro. Archie Miller April 2018



Worship The LORD

Psalm 96:9 (TLB)

⁹Worship the Lord with the beauty of holy lives. Let the earth tremble before him.

After visiting churches in many parts of the world, author Philip Yancey asked, “Why do so few Christians appear to be enjoying themselves in their worship?” The question is worth our attention. For while worship is considered to be a form of work (*liturgia* = **work**), it was always intended to be the highest form of work, an exhilarating, renewing form of labor that leaves people filled, not depleted, renewed, not more deeply trapped in dissatisfaction, more internally certain, not confused.

Writing on Worship and Evangelism, Gordon MacDonald (well known pastor, professor and author) says:

- * Worship should draw a sharp contrast between the kingdom of this world and the Kingdom of Heaven.
- * Worship should focus on the Living God and His revelation of Himself as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- * Worship should bring to our consciousness the acts and the character of God.
- * Worship should call the worshipper to repentance - a confession of sinfulness in contrast to God's righteousness and a resulting sense of forgiveness and restoration.
- * Worship should cause the worshipper to inventory his/her benefits in life and give thanks.
- * Worship should provide a chance for one to see her/his work in the perspective of the Kingdom and give from the profits of labor.
- * Worship should make the worshipper feel prayed for in terms of personal needs.
- * Worship should refine the perspective of people so that they see and pray for world events in light of God's purposes for His Kingdom.
- * Worship should offer encouragement and insight from the preached Word.
- * Worship should send people back into the “streets” of the world with a renewed sense of energy, confidence and purpose.

I wonder if you, the assembly of the LORD here in Orcutt, feel that urge to share with neighbor, friend, and acquaintance, the **Worship of the Lord with the beauty of holy lives?**

The Thoughts of Elder Ed Saunders

Matthew 4:4 (KJV)

⁴ It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.



Matthew 4:10 (KJV)

¹⁰ Then saith Jesus “it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.”

Philippians 2:1-11 (KJV)

¹ If *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, ² Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind. ³ *Let* nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. ⁴ Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. ⁵ Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: ⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: ⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. ⁹ Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: ¹⁰ That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; ¹¹ And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Christ died for His Church. He came to become a man like us, yet always honored His Father. In the face of death He said **Luke 22:42 (KJV)** ⁴² Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done.

God uses each of us to the extent we are willing to serve Him. We are a friendly congregation and God is using this congregation to bless not only our assembly, but through us to our community. When we show love to others, they are drawn to worship our Creator God and give Him praise.

How Does One
Become a Christian?

Hear
Believe
Repent
Confess
Immersed

