

The church is called to worship.

- Peter commands us to “*proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light*” (1 Peter 2:9)
- The church is a glory-displaying community (Eph. 3:21: “*To Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.*”)
- Worship is not something we come to, it is what we believe and express as God’s *ekklesia* (called out ones) whether gathered or scattered.
- Our testimony is that we “*turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God*” (1 Thess. 1:10), yet true worship will be a battle and we are called to
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- Our testimony is that we “turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God” (1 Thess. 1:10), yet true worship will be a battle and we are called to “guard ourselves from idols” (1 John 5:21)

Worshipping God is giving Him all that I am (mind, emotion, will, body) to all that He is, says and does.

- Peter’s purpose statement in **1 Peter 2:9-10** inspires us to take our worship to the next level:
1. God’s “*excellencies*” describe **WHY** He deserves to be worshipped.
 - God is the only true God (Isa. 46:9) and the only One to worship (Luke 4:8).
 - a) He’s the only **Creator** (Psalm 95:3, 6-7; Isa. 40:25-26; Rev. 4:11)
 - b) He’s the only **controller** of all things (1 Tim. 6:15: “the only Sovereign”; Dan. 4:34-37; Eph. 1:11)

c) He's the only **converter** of hearts (only "Savior" and "Redeemer"; Isa. 49:26; 43:11; 1 Pet. 2:9)

d) He's the only **culminator** of all things (1 Cor. 15:25-28)

- What is the chief end of man? Man's chief end is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever (the first question and answer in the Westminster Shorter Catechism of 1647)

2. God's "*excellencies*" drive **HOW** He deserves to be worshipped.

- Worship is a verb and is therefore an intentional response to what you love and value the most in every realm of life (1 Cor. 10:31)

- Think about five ways to worship God.

1. Worship with a **readied** heart (Heb. 10:22: prepare your heart): Avoid distractions (Phil. 4:8), confess your sins (Heb. 10:22) and worship with expectancy
2. Worship with a **receptive** mind (John 4:24: "in spirit and truth"): Saturate your life with the Word of God (Psalm 119:7, 12, 38, 62)
3. Worship with some **roused** emotion: a rejoicing heart (Ps. 35:9); humble spirit (Phil. 3:3); God-fearing attitude (Ps. 22:23); contrite heart (Ps. 51:17); lamenting heart (Ps. 142:5-6)
4. Worship with a **righteous** will (we choose to worship God): we choose to pray (Ps. 5:2); obey (Deut. 10:12-21); give (Deut. 16:16-17); forgive (Eph. 4:32b); love (Matt. 22:39); serve excellently (Mal. 1:6-10); do good works (Matt 5:16)
5. Worship with a **responsive** body (Rom. 12:1): Do this with a singing mouth (Ps. 105:2); bent knee (Ps. 95:6); bowed head (2 Chron. 29:30); clapping hands (Ps. 47:1); uplifted hands (Ps. 134:2); dancing feet (Ps. 149:2); grounded face (Job 1:20); shouting voice (Ps. 95:1); witnessing tongue (Ps. 96:1-6); thankful mouth (Col. 3:17); hard work (Col 3:23); greeting one another (Eph. 1:2)