

IN SPIRIT & IN TRUTH

THE FUNDAMENTALS OF BIBLICAL WORSHIP

MIKE MAZZALONGO

STUDENT WORKBOOK

bibleTalk^{TV}



Copyright 2023 BibleTalk.tv

All our material is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike License. This means you can use it almost however you need. The only thing you can't do is re-sell it.

Download it. Print it. Teach it. Share it.

In Spirit and In Truth

The Fundamentals of Biblical Worship

Mike Mazzalongo

This 4-part series examines the area of public worship. Each lesson looks not only at the practice of worship but also explores the purpose and personal experience that the Bible describes for those who worship in Spirit and Truth.



bibletalk.tv/in-spirit-and-in-truth

1. The Nature of Biblical Worship: Communication

This opening session examines the core activity of public worship - communication with God, and how this essential component can be enhanced by learning the language of communication with God.

Introduction - The goal of this series is that your _____

The Nature of Worship - Communication

The Olympics are about _____

You need to know that the essential _____ of something is in order to be _____ at it.

The essential nature of worship is _____.

Colossians 1:9-13

Why is this Important?

Churches make two basic mistakes when it comes to worship:

They make the _____ the _____.

Make up their own _____.

Communication with God - What is Required?

Realization that communication with God _____

Recognition that _____

A sense _____

Isaiah 6:65 _____

Revelation 1:17 _____

Know the _____

Nehemiah 1:4-11 _____

Prayer languages include _____

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

E. _____

The language of communication with God is _____

SUMMARY

40 DAYS OF PRAYER WITH JESUS

Try this 40-day plan to transform your prayer life. By reading these great prayers and teachings from the life of Jesus - one each day for 40 days - you will be able to see remarkable growth in your prayer life.

Read one each day. Meditate on it silently. Read it several times if needed. Then pray as the Biblical picture of Christ's prayer life motivates you. By doing this, you will learn to pray as our Lord Himself prayed.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. The Messiah's Prayer Life Predicted | Psalm 2:7-9 |
| 2. Jesus' Teaching on Praying for Enemies | Matthew 5:43-44 |
| 3. Jesus' Teaching on Sincere Prayer | Matthew 6:5-8 |
| 4. Jesus' Model Prayer | Matthew 6:9-15 |
| 5. Jesus's Teaching on the Power of Prayer | Matthew 7:7-12 |
| 6. Jesus' Teaching on Evangelistic Prayer | Matthew 9:37-38 (Luke 10:2) |
| 7. Jesus' Prayer of Praise | Matthew 11:25-26 (Luke 10:21) |
| 8. Jesus' All Night Prayer on the Mountain | Matthew 14:13,23-27 (Mark 6:46) |
| 9. Jesus' Teaching on Agreement in Prayer | Matthew 18:19-20 |
| 10. Jesus Prays for the Children | Matthew 19:13 |
| 11. Jesus Calls the Temple a House of Prayer | Matthew 21:12-13 (Mark 11:17) |
| 12. Jesus' Teaching on Faith and Prayer | Matthew 21:18-22 (Mark 11:24-25) |
| 13. Jesus Calls for Prayer During Crisis | Matthew 24:20 (Mark 13:18) |
| 14. Jesus Prays During the Lord's Supper | Matthew 26:26-27 (Mark 14:22; Luke 22:17) |
| 15. Jesus Prays in Gethsemane | Matthew 26:36-44 (Mark 14:32; Luke 22:39) |
| 16. Jesus Prays on the Cross | Matthew 27:46 (Mark 15:34) |
| 17. Jesus' Habit of Early Prayer | Mark 1:35-39 |
| 18. Jesus' Habit of Thanking His Father | Mark 6:41; 8:6-7 |
| 19. Jesus' Teaching on Prayer Against Demons | Mark 9:28-29 |
| 20. Jesus' Prayer at His Baptism | Luke 3:21-22 |

21. Jesus' Habit of Secluded Prayer	Luke 5:15-16; 9:18
22. Jesus' All Night Prayer as Choosing the Apostles	Luke 6:12-13
23. Jesus' All Night Prayer at His Transfiguration	Luke 9:28-29
24. The Disciples Ask Jesus for Prayer Training	Luke 11:1-4
25. Jesus' Teaching on Persistence in Prayer	Luke 11:5-13
26. Jesus' Parable on Persistence in Prayer	Luke 18:1-8
27. Jesus Teaches About Authentic Prayer	Luke 18:9-14
28. Jesus Prays for His Weak Disciples	Luke 22:31
29. Jesus' Prayer for His Enemies	Luke 23:34
30. Jesus' Prayer at His Death	Luke 23:46
31. Jesus' Prayers for Lazarus' Resurrection	John 11:41-42
32. Jesus' Teaching on Courageous Prayer	John 12:23-28
33. Jesus' Teaching on Praying in His Name	John 14:12-14
34. Jesus' Prayer for the Holy Spirit to Come	John 14:15-16
35. Jesus' Teaching on Prayer's Power	John 15:7-8
36. Jesus' Teaching on Praying in His Name	John 15:9-17
37. Jesus; Teaching on Boldness in Prayer	John 16:23-28
38. Jesus' Prayer for His Disciples	John 17:1-26
39. The Intensity of Jesus' Prayer Life	Hebrews 5:7-10
40. Jesus' Eternal Intercession	Hebrews 7:25

2. The Practice of Biblical Worship: Submission

This lesson reviews the spiritual exercise that prepares the Christian for worship as a lifestyle and not simply a regular activity at an appointed time.

Introduction – Time to practice your communication skills.

The Practice of Worship - Submission

How do we get good at worship?

Hebrew: *SHACHAH* _____

Greek: *PROSKUNEO* _____

Muslim – 5 Pillars

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Sikh – 5 K's

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____
- 5. _____

We try to improve the mechanics in order to improve the spirituality of our worship.

Psalms 51:12 _____

Psalms 34:18 _____

Matthew 5:3 _____

Romans 12:1 _____

Practical Applications

Common mistakes:

It's all about hardware _____

It's all about software _____

True Submission _____

Romans 12:1 _____

I Corinthians 11:15 _____

Because of Submission:

The women at Corinth _____

The men at Corinth _____

Everyone at Corinth _____

The key is to avoid the extremes _____

My Utmost for His Highest by Oswald Chambers

“We become the broken bread and the poured-out wine.” _____

Submission leads to _____

BREAKOUT SESSION

A. Practice Exercise:

Review the 10 Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17) one at a time and list to what degree you are in submission to God in each using the scale below.

	0 = NOT AT ALL					10 = FULLY SUBMITTED					
1.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
3.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
9.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

B. List the elements of public worship I can lead or be trained to lead in.

1. Audio/Visual
2. Greeting
3. Making announcements
4. Communion Preparation/Clean-up
5. Reading
6. Praying
7. Presiding at Communion
8. Assist at Communion
9. Song Leading
10. Preaching
11. Devo Lessons

Give this list to your elders/preachers when you return to your congregations.

C. Small Group Worship Practice:

Form small groups of 5-10

Go around the group where each man will spontaneously do one of the following:

- Quote any Scripture of any length
- Say a prayer
- Sing a verse of a song
- Give a blessing (either to God, i.e. "God is Great" or someone in the group, i.e. "John is a very honest brother")
- Share a brief teaching/insight (1-2 minutes max) from the Bible or spiritual life
- Make a witness (i.e. What God has done for me, how I was converted, etc.)

Keep going around the group until time is over or no one has anything left to say.

3. The Result of Biblical Worship: Transcendence

Many people come away from public worship unfulfilled but not knowing why. This lesson will explain what the Bible says we should receive from our worship in Spirit and Truth.

Introduction – In Western culture we like to measure things in order to give them value.

The result or goal of worship is not to finish on time or do it properly.

Transcendence

Transcendence in worship is the _____ of God in our _____.

Isaiah 1:1 _____

II Samuel 6:6 _____

The Bible describes many transcendent experiences _____

! DISCLAIMER !

Transcendence Now

What about today?

Here am I Lord experience

Hearing the word

Vision of God's will

Seeing God's will fulfilled

The Problems with Transcendence

History of transcendence in the church

Roman Catholic Church

Protestant Reformation

Pentecostal Movement

SUMMARY

Question – Are we better?

Submission that leads to transcendence requires:

True _____

True _____

True _____

These enable us to worship in Spirit and Truth and lead us to _____.

BREAKOUT SESSION

1. Divide into groups and have each team create a monthly worship planner for a one-year period.

Develop themes that will aim at developing:

- a) Clearer Communication with God
- b) Greater Submission to God
- c) Deeper (Transcendent) experience of God

January	July
February	August
March	September
April	October
May	November
June	December

2. Each team's feedback to group sample theme and how it will be developed.

4. The Glory of Singing in Worship

This final lesson will review the Biblical foundation and historical record that establish vocal singing as the Spirit-ordained manner of musical praise in public worship.

Introduction - One of the most asked questions about the church of Christ is, "Why do you not use instruments in worship?"

The result or goal of worship is not to finish on time or do it properly.

Why we don't use instruments in worship.

There is _____.

In the Old Testament God was very specific:

Numbers 10:1-2 _____

II Chronicles 29:35-37 _____

I Corinthians 14:15 _____

Ephesians 5:18-19 _____

Colossians 3:16 _____

There is _____.

The use of instruments in the Old Testament was clearly commanded and regulated

The proof _____.

Historians estimate that for at least the first 1000 years of church history, Christian worship was without instruments.

Justin Martyr – 150 AD _____

Augustine – 353-430 AD _____

Thomas Aquinas – 1260 AD _____

Protestant churches – 1571 _____

The Glory of Singing in Worship

Too much importance is placed on how we sing rather than the fact that we only sing in worship.

“Old Light on New Worship” – John Price

Jesus has made singing a glorious thing in worship:

By His own _____

Matthew 26:30 _____

By making it _____

Colossians 3:16 _____

By making it _____

Revelation 15:3 _____

SUMMARY

When we worship in song let us remember:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Psalm 18:49 _____

BREAKOUT SESSION

1. Divide into teams and have each group prepare a brief song service that will use both music and scripture readings to teach and/or cover one of the following:

- The Power of God's Word
- The Character/ Ministry/ Divinity of Christ
- The Majesty of God's Creation
- The Kingdom of God
- The church of Christ
- Faith and/or Trust in God
- The Lord's Supper
- The Need to Evangelize
- Salvation
- Judgment
- Praise to God
- Heaven
- Brotherly Love
- Perseverance through Trials
- The Power of the Gospel
- Forgiveness
- The Sure Promise of God
- A Subject of Your Choice

2. Each team take turns in leading the entire group in the devotional they have prepared

(10 minutes max for each).

Questions People ask about the Church of Christ

Some of the arguments offered in support of using instruments of music in the worship of the New Testament church, and responses to counter them.

Argument #1 "The Bible does not forbid its use."

Response: Worship has always been a regulated activity. From Genesis chapter 4 when Cain's offering was rejected because he, "did not do well", to Leviticus chapter 11 where Nadab and Abihu were burnt alive for failing to distinguish between the holy and the profane by offering "strange fire" for which God had not asked, to Jesus teaching that the Samaritans do not know what they worship, John 4:22, God has shown us that we do not now, nor have we ever had, the freedom to worship as we please, but rather only according to the authority of God's dictates.

Worship is for God and God alone, and therefore should be done only as He directs us and not according to our own choosing. Since instrumental music as worship is not required of us by God, it can only be offered by our own choice.

We should not be asking, "What does God forbid?" but rather "What does God require?", and in finding the answer, limit ourselves to that.

Argument #2 "Instrumental music is enjoined in the Psalms such as Psalm 98 and 150."

Response: The Psalms enjoin a great many things that would now be inappropriate under the New Covenant of Jesus Christ. For example, David praised worshiping in the temple or tabernacle in his day, Psalm 5:7, and specifically in the city of Jerusalem, when Jesus said that the time was coming when Jerusalem would not be God's center of worship, John 4:21. Psalm 66:13-15 speaks of offering burnt offerings of rams, bulls and goats. Psalm 137:9 extends a blessing to those who will dash the heads of Babylonish babies against rocks.

Obviously, not everything mentioned in the Psalms is intended for inclusion in New Testament worship.

Argument #3 "The Greek word psalmos means 'to play an instrument.'"

Response: It did mean "to play" in Classical Greek, but not in Koine Greek, the language in which the New Testament was written. If psalmos did mean to play, you can be certain that the scholars who have translated the New Testament into English through the last several centuries (and other languages also for that matter) would have translated it play or at least added a footnote or something.

No major translations indicate that the word means that we are to play. Instead, it is very telling that (with no exceptions known to this writer) they all indicate singing where psalmos is used.

Response: If anyone would have known exactly what the word psalmos meant and what practice it indicated be enjoined, the church of the first few centuries would have. History tells us that they did not use the instrument, but rather sang acapella, which of course means "in the manner of the church", which definition itself ought to enlighten us as to the original practice.

Best historical records indicate that instruments of music did not make their way into regular use in the worship of the church until after 1250 AD, by which time the original church had already suffered many other changes from its original nature.

Note: We should also consider that if the word psalmos did mean "to play" then we would all be obligated to play on some stringed instrument.

Argument #4 "Adding instruments is no different than adding a church building, song books or a sound system."

Response: Actually, it is very different. When God teaches us to observe His teachings, it is implied that whatever we must do or use to keep His teachings is also authorized.

For example, He teaches us that we must meet, but since He did not tell us exactly how to meet, we are left to ourselves to find a means to facilitate meeting. We could choose to meet in a home, under a tree, in a field, in a boat, or in the usual case, in a building which we have provided for the purpose of meeting.

The same principle applies to song books, sound systems and all such things. Whatever facilitates obedience to God's word is authorized as long as it does not change or add to what we are directed

to do. Song books and sound systems facilitate singing without changing it from singing or adding anything different.

Argument #5 "If God gives someone a talent or a gift, it is not wrong to use that gift in worship."

Response: Does this apply to gifted plumbers, surgeons, wing-shooters and hog-callers? obviously not every gift is to be used in worship. We must not forget that God gives some gifts so that we might serve. Instrumental music can be used as a great non-worship oriented service.

"Why Don't You Have a Piano?"

1. Quick answer: We are trying to be the church Jesus established and while His New Testament does teach us to sing in worship, there is nothing there about using musical instruments.
2. Answer based on holiness in worship:
 - a. The first murder was over a failure to observe holiness in worship.
 - i. Cain killed his brother, Abel, because of jealousy over the fact that God accepted Abel's offering and not Cain's (Genesis 4:1-15).
 - ii. Abel's worship was "of faith" (Hebrews 11:4).
 - iii. Based on the principle of faith coming by hearing the word of God, Romans 10:17, we can deduce that God had provided instruction concerning the sacrifice to be offered and that Abel followed that instruction while Cain did not.
 - iv. Cain had the opportunity to "do well" (Genesis 4:6-7) but chose evil instead (I John 3:11-12).
 - v. We now have the opportunity to "do well" by choosing to limit our offerings of worship to practices God has revealed to us in His word.
 - b. Moses missed the Promised Land because of a failure to acknowledge God's holiness.
 - i. Moses failed to treat God as holy by obeying Him in the presence of Israel (Numbers 20:2-13).

- ii. This is in spite of the fact that he acted according to instruction he had previously been given (Exodus 17:1-7).
 - iii. We can acknowledge God's holiness today by obeying Him in worship by singing as Jesus' New Testament teaches.
 - c. God killed Nadab and Abihu over a failure to distinguish between the holy and the profane (Leviticus 10:1-11, see especially 8-11).
 - i. They offered fire of their own choosing that God had not "authorized" or directed them to offer.
 - ii. We can distinguish between the holy and the profane by choosing to offer only singing in worship as we have been directed.
 - d. God used His prophet, Ezekiel to emphasize the need to make a distinction between the holy and the profane.
 - i. Judah's priests were condemned for not teaching this distinction (22:26, 44:23).
 - ii. The vision he was given of the temple included a division between the holy and the profane (42:20)
 - e. From the above, we should understand that when God sets something or some practice apart from other things or practices (the profane) that thing or practice becomes holy.
- 3. God's "silence" regarding instruments in the worship of the New Testament church is significant.
 - a. He was not silent concerning music in worship as singing is specified.
 - b. Even Jesus subjects Himself to "silence" regarding the priesthood.
 - i. "For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reverence to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests" (Hebrews 7:14).
 - ii. God's specified choice of the tribe of Levi and family of Aaron to serve as priests automatically eliminated all other tribes and families including Judah even though Jesus was of Judah.
 - c. "Silence" is used as an understood principle on an everyday basis.

- d. Authorizing a mechanic to change your oil does not allow him the freedom to install a new muffler as well.
 - e. Ordering bacon, pineapple and red peppers on your pizza precludes all other toppings.
 - f. A doctor's prescription for a particular medication authorized only that medication and does not need a disclaimer listing all medications not to be prescribed.
4. The church did not include musical instruments in the worship of the church at all until the seventh century and they did not come into regular use until the thirteenth century.
 5. The first Christians would have been intimately familiar with the language and would have known what the words meant and would allow better than any modern scholar.

BibleTalk.tv is an Internet Mission Work.

We provide video and textual Bible teaching material on our website and mobile apps for free. We enable churches and individuals all over the world to have access to high quality Bible materials for personal growth, group study or for teaching in their classes.

The goal of this mission work is to spread the gospel to the greatest number of people using the latest technology available. For the first time in history it is becoming possible to preach the gospel to the entire world at once. BibleTalk.tv is an effort to preach the gospel to all nations every day until Jesus returns.

The Choctaw Church of Christ in Oklahoma City is the sponsoring congregation for this work and provides the oversight for the BibleTalk ministry team. If you would like information on how you can support this ministry, please go to the link provided below.

bibletalk.tv/support



BibleTalk.tv is one of the **most-prolific uploaders** on Amazon Prime Video with more videos than any major Hollywood studio except Paramount Pictures.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.