

Cedar Grove Community Church has defined worship as:
GIVING GOD THE GLORY, HONOR AND PRAISE DUE HIS NAME.

With this definition in mind, we have set five main principles regarding our times of worship together.

1. WORSHIP IS FOR AND ABOUT GOD, NOT US.

Worship is God-centered, and exists because of who He is and what He has done. Although our worship service is facilitated by many talents and gifts of the congregation, we strive to never lose sight of the fact that the intent and goal is to give God glory for who He is. Our focus will be on God and not on those leading or participating in the worship service.

Key Verses: [Psalms 95: 1-7](#); [Psalms 103: 1-5](#); [Psalms 111](#)

2. WORSHIP IS FOUNDED ON AND GUIDED BY GOD'S WORD, THE BIBLE.

God's Word reveals His character, along with principles to guide our lives, including our worship of Him. The Word of God is absolute truth and is central in all we do during a worship service, whether it be in our music, preaching or prayers.

Key Verses: [Psalms 138:2](#); [Nehemiah 8:5-12](#); [John 4:23-24](#).

3. UNDERSTANDING WHO GOD IS ELICITS HEARTFELT WORSHIP.

Worship is a natural, logical response, prompted by the Holy Spirit, as we start to understand God's character and comprehend and experience his attributes. Knowing and understanding who God is, in contrast to who we are, cannot help but lead our congregation into deeper, more meaningful worship. Our response to His glory is to worship Him from our innermost being.

Key Verses: [Psalms 29:2](#); [Psalms 96: 1-9](#); [Rev. 4:11](#)

4. TRUE WORSHIP STEMS FROM OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

The act of worshipping God is founded on our relationship with Him. Without faith, it is impossible to please God, and anyone who comes to Him must believe that He exists and is the rewarder of those who earnestly seek Him. ([Heb. 11:6](#)) The worship of God, then, is an awesome privilege Christians have to give back to their Redeemer adoration, praise and thanksgiving for who He is and what He has done.

Key Verses: [Hebrews 12:28](#); [1 Peter 2:9](#); [Philippians 3:3](#)

5. TRUE WORSHIP OF GOD IS NOT JUST AN ACTIVITY, BUT A LIFESTYLE.

Because our worship is based on who God is and what He has done for us, true worship is not just an activity, but a lifestyle characterized by gratitude and adoration to God from His dearly beloved children. When we accept that Jesus Christ is the one who has reunited us with God and saved us from separation from God, He changes the direction and focus of our lives. Therefore, our daily lifestyle and our individual worship must be consistent in order to experience worship as God has designed it to be – a complete activity in our very spirits, in our lifestyles, and in our genuine transparency and love of God and others. The blessing for us individually and the benefit for our authentic worship together, is our congregation of believers living a life of worship on a daily basis.

Key Verses: [Ephesians 5:1-2](#); [Luke 10:27](#); [Romans 12:2](#)