

The Lakeview Lamp

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." - Psalm 119:105

March 26, 2006

What Is Expected of Me in Worship?

Wendell Ward, edited

Some do not know what God expects of them when they assemble with the saints. Notice I said what "God" expects. Some leave worship feeling they have just gone through the motion or just went through a routine. I believe we miss the whole point of worship if we do not follow the scriptures and worship God in "spirit and truth" as **John 4:24** teaches.

God is the object of our worship! We must do what pleases him! Notice I said "do" what pleases "Him." The point being: if we don't get anything out of the worship, it may be because we didn't put anything into it.

Worship starts with good preparation: a good night's rest, arrive early, greet each other, and have time to speak to visitors. You should always participate in each act of worship in the manner God has commanded. When I speak of "each act" I am talking about singing, for example.

When we sing, we do two things. We offer praise unto God, and we teach and admonish one another. See **Hebrews 2:12**, **Ephesians 5:19**, and **Colossians 3:16**. We must not just sit and listen. We must vocalize as we think of the words we sing.

In prayer, we talk to our Father in Heaven. We express thanks (and praise - TN) and ask for things we need (including forgiveness - TN). Whether in the assembly or our daily routine, our lives should be centered on prayer. See **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, **John 14:14**, **Matthew 7:7-11**, and **1 Peter 3:12**, to name a few passages.

We must joyfully give as we have been prospered. Give as we think of how much God has prospered us with jobs, homes, health, and the very air we breathe. See **Ephesians 4:28**, **1 Cor 16:1-2**, and **2 Cor 9:6-11**.

Another act of worship when we assemble on the first day of the week is that of partaking of the Lord's Supper. It is a memorial, a remembrance of Christ's death and resurrection until He comes again. The bread represents His body, and the fruit of the vine represents His shed blood that takes away our sins. See **Matt 26:26-29**, **Acts 2:42**, **Acts 20:7**, and **1 Cor 11:23-29**.

In worship, it is expected of us to learn of God and His righteousness by means of studying the Bible, whether by teaching or preaching. God gives instructions on how to live in this world acceptably to Him. We should follow the preacher or teacher in our Bibles to see that he is teaching the Word as God would have it taught. Then, make application to our lives. See **Romans 1:16**, **Acts 2:42**, **1 Thess 2:13**, **2 Timothy 3:16-17**, and **1 Peter 3:15**.

Friend, anything more or less would be unacceptable to God. Offer good worship to Him!

It's God's Nature

Edna Hunt

The chirping of the birds
Heralding the spring
The gentle breeze, the babbling brooks
All of nature sings
The daffodils in clustered groups
Bring sunshine from the earth
Nature in singsong fashion
Begins its wondrous rebirth
The caws of birds flying overhead
Nature's melodies fill the air
God graciously lends a moment
Totally free from care
Reflecting on His blessings
In the landscape all around
God's power and majesty
Show in every sight and sound
With loving care He made it all
In unity and precision
Showing His care and detail
And His overwhelming wisdom
For who could think in such diversity
And bring forth the unity we see
All the aspects of nature
In wonderful harmony
It is with much gratitude
I now sit and ponder
Why One so magnificent and strong
Would agree to be my Father
What a legacy of excellence
Involved in all creation
What minute detail each contains
Exceptional revelation
That God made all of this and placed me here
To enjoy the fruits of His labor
He didn't have to love me so
Yet His love has never wavered
What love, what joy, what hope He gives
To each and every one
So how could I not give my all to Him
For all that He has done.

“You, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.” – Psalm 86:17b

Family News

Neil Barker, Sandy Heyboer’s father, remains in Harpeth Terrace (in Franklin). He is receiving therapy, eating well and improving. He is still not mobile enough to go home.

Mary Burnett is feeling better. She is almost completely over the flu.

Linda Clark, James Fuller’s mother, has very severe breathing problems.

Connie Cobern had bronchitis this past week, but is now better.

Elmo Ferrell has problems with his back and legs.

Sandra Hunt continues to have a high pain level in her right shoulder and arm. The doctor is monitoring and may give her a shot if there is no improvement.

John Jenkins, Robert’s father, has lung cancer. He continues to receive treatment every three weeks. Over time he is slowly getting weaker.

Ruth Kelly, who used to be a member here, has cancer in several major organs. She is not any better and the outlook is not good (she did recently receive a thirty day supply of medicine if that is useful information).

Allen Malone remains in Vietnam. There is a new report from him in the back of the auditorium. He will leave Vietnam for CA today. He will remain in CA to help Tri get started in school and then Allen will be home no later than April 6th.

There are two new reports from **Bob Nichols** (Japan) in the back.

Laura Reed continues to be about the same.

Georgia Taylor continues to have many health problems.

Ame White is receiving some rehabilitation now. She is more tired than usual because of it.

Harvey Williams, John Hunt’s uncle, had a mild stroke last weekend. He is home and doing very well. He is taking medicine to prevent more problems.

Robert Wray has had a good weekend.

Michael Zoladz, Joyce Werner’s 46-year-old nephew, has inoperable brain cancer. The outlook is not good. He has started having some memory problems. He has a wife and twin 17-year-old children.

Out of town, traveling, or visiting: **Janis Daniel**; **Sandy Heyboer** (out in AM, here in PM); **John Hunt** (out in AM, here in PM).

Lakeview church of Christ

132 New Shackle Island Road

P.O. Box 514

Hendersonville TN 37077

Building: 615-824-1376

www.BibleSaints.com

Bible Call: 615-824-1310

Sunday:

Bible class 9 am

Assembly 10 am

Worship 6 pm

Wednesday:

Bible study 7 pm

Troy Nicholson

trojenn@intergate.com

"Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks" (1 Thes 5:16-18).