

# A JOURNEY IN CORPORATE WORSHIP

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Adventure in Worship Series

## Fundamentals

I am told Vince Lombardi was one of the most successful coaches who ever coached in the NFL. Once, after losing a game, he called for a team meeting in the locker room. As he faced these seasoned, hardened men who knew the game of football inside and out, he held up a football and announced, "Men, this is a football!" He then began to remind them of some of the fundamentals of the game and said, "Men, we must get back to the basics." Lombardi knew the importance of never forgetting the basics – the fundamentals of the game. He believed that the strength of their game lay in the foundations of football – **the very basics.**

Worship is a great deal more important than football, although there is much worship that takes place in football.

If we are to be successful in corporate worship then there are some fundamentals, some basics, we need to seriously consider.

Has anyone ever explained the fundamentals of worship to you?  
Let's explore some fundamentals together...

***The word "worship" is used about 185 times in the Bible.***

***A Vocabulary for worship is fundamental.***

### ***English Synonyms for Worship:***

First, how would you define the word Worship?

In many places worship means we're going to sing really cool songs for approximately 20-25 minutes. If you did that in a bar they would call it Karaoke.

To do well on this journey of worship we need to develop a vocabulary.

WORSHIP SYNONYMS (Words having nearly the same meaning.)

- ***Veneration***; To set above, put on a pedestal, esteem as highest.  
Ps 95 speaks of the majesty, resplendence and superiority of our God.  
Col: 1:15-18 He is the image of the invisible God... presents Jesus as worthy of our highest esteem.

Eph 1:20 "...and He seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenlies,

Eph 1:21 far above all principality and authority and power and dominion, and every name being named, not only in this world, but also in the coming age.

Eph 1:22 And He has put all *things* under His feet and gave Him *to be* Head over all *things* to the church,

Eph 1:23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all."

- ***Love***; The emotion that animates us toward someone or something of

which we are particularly fond.

1John 3:1 “Behold what manner of love the Father has given  
unto us that we should be called the children of God.”

Our worship is in direct response to **his love**. **His love** animates us, that is, causes us to take action, toward Him.

- **Adoration**; An excessive attachment, unassailable loyalty.

John expresses his attachment (adoration) to Jesus in this manner.

John 1:14 “And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of \*grace

(\*divine influence, benefit, favor, liberality, pleasure)  
and truth (truly, verity).”

My friend, Gerrit Gustaphson, has said “Jesus did not reserve himself on the cross but gave his all. The only logical response is that I should do the same.”

During many years of counseling married couples, I have found that marriages dissolve without this kind of devotion and thrive when it’s present.

So it is with our relationship to the God of all Gods, Creator of the ends of the earth.

Devotion to our benevolent Father brings immeasurable peace and intimacy with Him.

- **Reverence**; Deep admiration, Profound Respect.

Can’t you hear the wonder and respect in the Apostle Paul’s voice as he declares; “O’ the depth of the riches of both the wisdom and the knowledge of God. His judgments are unsearchable and His ways past finding out. Who has known the mind of God that he should become His counselor, or who has first given to Him that He should repay Him? For all things are from Him and to Him and through Him.” Rom 11:36

These four terms: Veneration, Love, Adoration and Reverence are essential qualities that should comprise both personal and public worship.

The true heart of worship overflows with these qualities.

As a worship leader these are the some of the guiding points I use to select songs and to measure my own worship.

Corporate worship is not so much **an event**, whatever Time Life Magazine may tout; it is **a journey** into His presence. Worship is our **journey together** to know Him.

Until next time...”Worship our Lord. He is worthy!

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