

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

SESSION 2: PART 1

Worship: How First Baptist Glorifies God & Discipleship: How First Baptist Grows in Community

PURPOSE

During our time together, we want to set expectations for membership so that we are all on the same page about the purpose, role and mission of First Baptist Portland. You will become familiar with FBC Portland – gaining insights into our identity, how we - as a local church - come together to worship God, grow in discipleship and sanctification within our community, serve one another, and develop a Kingdom mindset.

We are excited about these sessions and our hope is that you and your family have an opportunity to learn who we are, and we have an opportunity to learn all about you.

- **Part 1: Spiritual** _____
- **Part 2: Spiritual** _____

“AS BEING THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE BODY OF CHRIST...”

Definition of regeneration:

- *Regeneration is the sovereign work of God – through the Holy Spirit who grants spiritual _____ to each Christian, raising them from the dead so that they are now able to repent and trust in Christ as a new creation. [Ezekiel 36:22-32; Ezekiel 36:27; John 3:1-5; Acts 16:14; 2 Corinthians 4:1-6; Ephesians 2:1-5, Philippians 1:29; James 1:8; 1 Peter 1:3; 1 John 5:1]*

When God calls the local church together...when He gathers us together as His people, then He does this for His regenerate people to Worship Him for His _____.

What is Worship?

Definition of Worship:

- *Worshipping God is an act made possible only by God. We are engaging with God as His regenerate creation [on his terms] by giving glory to Him, honoring Him and focusing all of our attention toward Him.*

How First Baptist Gathers

TEN CORE PRINCIPLES OF WORSHIP:

1. **GOD'S GLORY ABOVE ALL:** *Christian worship should be aimed at bringing glory and honor to God alone, with a focus on His greatness, holiness, and majesty.*
2. **SCRIPTURE-BASED:** *Christian worship should be grounded in and shaped by the truths and principles found in Scripture. Nothing said or sung should be in contradiction to Scripture.*
3. **GOSPEL-CENTERED:** *Christian worship should center on the gospel of Jesus Christ, highlighting His life, death, resurrection, and the salvation He offers to humanity through faith in Him.*
4. **SPIRIT-LED:** *Christian worship should be guided by the Holy Spirit, with a sensitivity to His leading and an openness to His presence and work among the worshipers.*
5. **CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION:** *Christian worship should encourage and facilitate the active participation of the congregation, involving them in singing, praying, and responding to God's Word as a unified body of believers.*
6. **CHRIST-EXALTING:** *Christian worship should prioritize songs and music that exalt Jesus Christ, His character, and His redemptive work, helping worshipers to magnify and adore Him.*
7. **HUMILITY AND REVERENCE:** *Christian worship should be characterized by a humble and reverent attitude, recognizing the awe-inspiring holiness of God and our unworthiness to approach Him apart from His grace.*
8. **OFFERING OUR BEST TO GOD:** *Christian worship should strive for excellence in all aspects, including musicality, creativity, and sound production, as an offering of our best to God.*
9. **DIVERSE AND INCLUSIVE:** *Christian worship should be inclusive and embrace the diversity of God's people, welcoming people of different ages, cultures, and backgrounds, and creating an environment where all can worship together.*
10. **DISCIPLESHIP AND TRANSFORMATION:** *Christian worship should be part of the discipleship process, aiming to transform hearts and minds, deepen faith, and foster spiritual growth among worshipers, leading them to live out their faith in their daily lives.*

FOCUS ON SCRIPTURE

To make sure that God remains the focus – your elders have determined to utilize Scripture through every part of our time of worship:

- **Read the Bible** [1 Timothy 4:13; Colossians 4:15-16]
 - *Call to Worship*
- **Preach the Bible** [Acts 2:42; 1 Timothy 4:13]
 - *Expository Preaching*
- **Pray the Bible** [Acts 2:42; 1 Timothy 6:12]
 - *Throughout the Service*
- **Sing the Bible** [The Psalms; Ephesians 5:19]
 - *To deepen our relationship with God*
- **And, See the Bible:** Meaning Scripture being “seen” through giving [Mark 12:41-44] & ordinances of the Lord’s Supper and Baptism by Immersion. [Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11]

Worship God through Preaching: Expository Preaching [Nehemiah 8:8; Isaiah 55:10-11; Acts 2:14-41, 12:24, 13:16-47; 2 Timothy 4:2-5]

Expository preaching means that Pastor Jacob _____ a passage of Scripture [**Book of Acts for example**], and _____ that passage of Scripture. He then _____ it around a central theme and main divisions which are taken from the text itself, and then he _____ it to our lives.

The goal is not just to impart information but to transform lives through the power of God's Word. The best way for you to get the most out of the sermon is to study the passage that will be preached on before you come on Sunday morning. Every week, we publish the next week's passage in the weekly bulletin.

Worship God through Music

- Music was given to us to deepen our relationship with God.
- **3 reasons we utilize music to worship God**
 - To **reflect** the picture of God's Glory [**Zephaniah 3:17; Hebrews 2:22; Ephesians 5:18-21**]
 - That we might **respond** fully to Him [**The Psalms**]
 - And, to remember and **meditate** on His Word [**Colossians 3:16**]

Worship God through our Giving

- It really is an act of _____ toward God who has given and provided us with everything we ever need.
- **We do this in three [3] primary ways:**
 - We Pass Plates on Sunday morning & a mail-in option.
 - We have a Safe & Secure Online Option
 - And, we have text to give option.

SESSION 2: PART 2

Discipleship: How First Baptist Grows in Community

INTERACTIVE

Before we begin...

What are the five [5] most influential sermons you have ever heard? [Topic, chapter & verse.]

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

NOW...

Think about five [5] people who have influenced your life. [I want you to down their names.]

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

The reason it is easier to name people who have influenced you is because _____
are important to all of us - _____ is important to all of us.

COMMUNITY IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

The early church devoted themselves to the apostles' _____, to the _____,
and to _____.

INTERACTIVE

To learn more about the Community at First Baptist, please scan the QR code or visit
our website at fbcportland.org/fellowship



WHO CAN MEET IN COMMUNITY?

Class descriptions can be found at fbcportland.org/community-group-adult

WHAT DO YOU STUDY?

Lifeway Materials
Text-Based Curriculum
CORE Seminars

INTERACTIVE

To learn more about First Baptist Text-Based Curriculum, or CORE Seminars
please scan the QR code or visit our website at fbcportland.org/coreseminars



COMMUNITY FOR STUDENTS & KIDS

Nursery-Pre-K
Elementary [K-5th]
Middle School [6th-8th]
High School [9th-12th]