

Worship God

The Theology and Practice of Worship (Part Ten)

Corporate Worship

*We meet together to engage with God through
His word and the operation of the Holy Spirit
in the assembly of His people*

Corporate Worship

Mutual Edification

➤ **Definition**

- *edification* – the building up of the body in a Christ-centered faith, hope and love through instruction, encouragement and exhortation
- *mutual* – not merely the ministry of leaders/pastors, but our “verbal” ministry to one another

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Hebrews 10:23-25

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;
and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,
not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

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Hebrews 10:23-25

➤ **Observations**

1. One way we “draw near” to God is to expose ourselves to the ministries of others
2. Mutual encouragement is vital for the sustaining and strengthening of our faith in Christ
3. The purpose of assembling together is for mutual (“one another”) encouragement

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1 Corinthians 12-14

➤ **Principle**

We encounter God through the manifestation of the Spirit in the mutual exercise of the spiritual gifts for the common good (12:7-11)

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1 Corinthians 12-14

➤ *Observations*

1. The value and importance of spontaneous, verbal ministries of exhortation, comfort or admonition by congregational members (14:3, 26)
2. The priority of the edification of the body in the assembled-life of the church (14:26-33)

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Implications

1. Church services should not be designed to simply facilitate private communion with God but the edification of the body

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Implications

2. We need to encourage and facilitate in our corporate meetings the Spirit-prompted ministries of mutual exhortation and encouragement

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Implications

3. We need to plan for and participate in different kinds of corporate meetings in order to integrate what the New Testament exemplifies