



**Message One: CREATED TO WORSHIP**  
*Pastor Mike Chapman*

*From time to time the church should take stock of that which is most central, most important and most vital in our common life together. Though we sing with the tongues of men and of angels, if we are not truly worshipping the living God, we are noisy gongs and clanging cymbals. Though we organize the liturgy most beautifully, if it does not enable us to worship the living God, we are mere ballet dancers. Though we repave the floor and reface the stonework, though we balance our budgets and attract all the tourists, if we are not worshipping God, we are nothing.*

*-- N. T. Wright,  
For All God's Worth: True Worship and the Calling of the Church*

## Worship Is...

Worship is our **response** both personal and corporate to God—for who he is and what he has done.

Psalm 150:2, Praise him for his acts of power; praise him for his magnificent greatness. (Msg)

Worship is expressed by the things we **say** and the way we **live**.

It is a verb. It is not a spectator event. It is something you enter with all your might!

True worship is a **whole life response** to God's greatness and glory.

## Created to Worship

We were created with a **spirit** in the core of our being so that we could connect with God like no other creature.

*Genesis 2:7, God formed Man out of dirt from the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. The Man came alive—a living soul! (Msg)*

We were created **by** God and **for** God.

*Colossians 1:16, All things were created by him and for him. (NIV)*

Humans are hard-wired for worship. We will worship something or someone.

*Acts 17:22-23, Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: TO AN UNKNOWN GOD. (NIV)*

## THE WORSHIP EXCHANGE

A very dark picture...

*Romans 1:24-32, They became full of sexual sin, using their bodies wrongly with each other... Women stopped having natural sex and started having sex with other women. In the same way, men stopped having natural sex and began wanting each other. Men did shameful things with other men, and in their bodies they received the punishment for those wrongs. People did not think it was important to have a true knowledge of God...They are filled with every kind of sin, evil, selfishness, and hatred. They are full of jealousy, murder, fighting, lying, and*

*thinking the worst about each other. They gossip and say evil things about each other. They hate God. They are rude and conceited and brag about themselves. They invent ways of doing evil. They do not obey their parents. They are foolish, they do not keep their promises, and they show no kindness or mercy to others...They themselves not only continue to do these evil things, they applaud others who do them. (NCV)*

The cause of such actions was not the **neglect** of worship but the **exchange** of worship.

*Romans 1:21-23, 25, They knew God, but they did not give glory to God or thank him. Their thinking became useless. Their foolish minds were filled with darkness. They said they were wise, but they became fools. They traded the glory of God who lives forever for the worship of idols...They exchanged the truth of God for a lie. They worshiped and served what had been created instead of the God who created those things, who should be praised forever. Amen. (NCV)*

We are spiritual creatures, looking for spiritual **connection**.

Worship is about value—what you value most you will worship.

Whatever you worship, you **imitate**, and whatever you imitate you become.

Psalm 115:9, People who make idols will be like them, and so will those who trust them. (NCV)