

WORSHIP: Seek and Surrender

Several months of discussion, prompted by the ideas in the book "Simple Church" by Thom S. Rainer & Eric Geiger, has brought the Elders and Pastoral Staff to the place where we want to present a clear, simple plan for the future of MCBC.

We begin an explanation of the 4 essentials of our Spiritual journey...

WORSHIP ▫ COMMUNITY ▫ DISCIPLESHIP ▫ SERVICE

WORSHIP

- The "ability" to "worship" is an essential component of the "image of God" in humanity
- The "need" to "worship" is a basic drive which is met only in a personal relationship with our Creator

1. WORSHIP IS AN EXPERIENCE

- CORPORATE / PUBLIC
 - praise, power, preaching
 - for evangelism and edification
- PERSONAL / PRIVATE
 - transformative, guidance
 - prayer, meditation, growth in holiness

2. WORSHIP IS A RELATIONSHIP

- GOD AS "SEEKER"
 - Luke 19:10 "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost"

→ John 4:23 "Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks."

→ Isaiah 55:6, 7 "Seek the LORD while he may be found; call on him while he is near... Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon."

- MANKIND AS "SEEKER"

→ 2 Chronicles 30:18, 19 "May the Lord, who is good, pardon everyone who sets his heart on seeking God"

→ Luke 2:2, 11 "we have come to worship him"

→ Revelation 5:14 and 7:11 "The four living creatures said, "Amen," and the elders fell down and worshiped... All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God."

"Worshipping God is the great essential of (spiritual) fitness. If you have not been worshipping... when you get into work, you will not only be useless yourself, but a tremendous hindrance to those associated with you."

Oswald Chambers