

1  **UNDERSTANDING WORSHIP(4)**

The "Acts" of Worship

2  **PREACHING**

- (1 Tim 4:13) *Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to preaching and to teaching.*
- (2 Tim 3:16-17 NIV) *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, {17} so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*

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- (2 Tim 4:1-2) *In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: {2} Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and careful instruction.*
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- It is in this act of worship that we shift from speaking to God to being spoken to by Him.
- The objective power of the word of God to change our thinking and shape our lives is awesome (Rom 1:16,17).
- Collectively staring into the mirror of the word (Jas 1:23) allows us to reset our moral and spiritual compasses.

5  **GIVING**

- (2 Cor 9:6-8 NIV) *Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. {7} Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. {8} And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.*
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- In this aspect of worship we move from the "fruit of our lips" to the "first fruits" of our physical blessings.
- It is in our giving, as much as any act of worship, that both the vertical and horizontal benefits are seen.
- Our gifts, in a very real way, provide insight into our hearts.

7  **LORD'S SUPPER**

- (1 Cor 11:20-29) *When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, {21} for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk. {22} Don't you have homes to eat and drink*

*in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this? Certainly*

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*not! {23} For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, {24} and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." {25} In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me." {26} For whenever you eat this bread and drink*

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*this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. {27} Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. {28} A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. {29} For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.*

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- The Lord's Supper is serious business.
- It is in this act of worship that the physical senses are brought into play to aid in stirring and reinforcing our memory.
- The eating of the Lord's Supper is, by design, an intensely internal experience.
- However, it is also a powerful witness to those brothers and sisters with whom we share this sacred meal.