



## CELL GUIDE

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<b>TOPIC</b>	The Call to Worship	<b>SPEAKER</b>	Ps Daniel Foo
<b>THEME</b>	2023 Vision Series	<b>DATE</b>	11 & 12 Feb 2023

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# MESSAGE SUMMARY

## INTRODUCTION

Worship reflects our relationship and intimacy with God. Ps Daniel led us into a time of worship and prayer, demonstrating how we can confidently connect with God through corporate worship, bringing our thanksgivings, praise, surrender and spiritual songs to the Lord Most High.

## HOW WE DO CORPORATE WORSHIP IN BBTC

### 1. Principles of Corporate Worship

- a) A major key in corporate worship is unity as we are One Body led by One Spirit to the One Lord and God (Eph 4:4-6). We worship God together as His children, dwelling together in unity as each one is plugged into the body-life. As we pray and worship in a corporate setting, we can have individual expressions, such as tongues, gestures and shouting, which must never become an issue and distract the corporate expression.
- b) The goal of corporate worship is to delight the heart of Father-God, who is seeking true worshippers (Jn 4:23-24). True worshippers worship in spirit, connecting with God in his heart; and in truth, where every song sung is anchored in Scripture and centered on God.
- c) Anointed worship means we do all we can but in dependence on the Holy Spirit. True worship occurs when our spirit connects with the Holy Spirit, who leads and connects us into the presence of God. The worship team are only facilitators and cannot lead us to the presence of God. We exalt the Lord Jesus always and use every means to praise and worship the Lord. When God is amplified, He will draw us to Him and we will be transformed as we worship and experience God.

### 2. Confidently Connect with God

- a) We have the right standing with God always, because Jesus is our Lord and Saviour. Through the divine exchange, we are justified, have peace with God and have the gift of righteousness of God. We connect with God solely by the Blood of the Lamb and through Jesus, our High Priest. Corporate worship is a celebration and it is our decision to worship Him, be a participant, bring acceptable sacrifices and be guided by the Word and the Holy Spirit.

- b) As we deal with sins committed and experience guilt from accusations of the evil one, we remember that through Jesus, we have received forgiveness, cleansing and covering. In Christ, we are completely forgiven and deeply loved. We can confess our right standing with God and boldly go to God to pursue a guilt-free, non-condemnation relationship with Him.
- c) When thoughts and worries enter our lives, we can cast all our cares and anxieties to the Lord by praying till the peace of God guard our hearts and mind and rule in our hearts. We seek to connect with the Lord and manage distractions that cause disconnection with the Lord during corporate worship.

### 3. Thanksgiving and Praise

- a) The basis of thanksgiving is gratefulness. We thank God for all He has done and is doing, all He has given and is going to give to us (Psa 100:4, 2 Cor 9:15). The Lord's supper, tithes and offerings are spiritual transactions. During the Lord's supper, we give thanks and praise for the bodily death of Lord Jesus and the shed blood of Christ for our salvation and forgiveness of our sins.
- b) The basis of praise is knowing God (e.g. Exo 34:6-7, Isa 9:6). We praise God for who He is, His attributes and His names through words, songs, proclamation and physical expressions. We are encouraged to enlarge our praise vocabulary (e.g. Psa 23, Psa 103:1-5).

### 4. Worship, Surrender and Spiritual Songs

- a) Worship refers to the holiness of God (Lev 10:3, Isa 8:13, Psa 46:10), where we express to God that He alone is God, the Creator and the Lord Most High that is set apart from all creation.
- b) Surrender and spiritual songs refers to developing an intimate relationship with God by directing our thoughts and emotions and giving Him our love and adoration in response to His love for us (Eph 5:18-19, Col 3:16). These personal responses are spontaneous expressions of our spirit, born out of faith and inspiration of the Holy Spirit, that are improvised in an unrehearsed, unpremeditated manner to tell God what we think and feel about Him.

## CONCLUSION

God remembers no more of our sins that are under the Blood, but He remembers our devotion to Him (2 Cor 11:3, Jer 2:2). Purity of heart is formed as we connect with God repeatedly (Mt 5:8). We need to guard our hearts for out of the heart comes the issues of life. We need to see and understand all dimensions, love and beauty of our Lord similar to the four living creatures in Revelations, strengthening the depths of our worship life (Rev 4:8, Psa 27:4).

# QUESTIONS

1. Share some bible passages or praise songs in your playlist at the moment. How have these helped you to worship God?

2. Is there an area of your life you're wrestling with or working through right now? What helps you to continue to offer up worship, praise and thanksgiving in the midst of challenges?

3. What are some challenges or distractions you face during corporate worship? As you reflect on this week's message, how can you be intentional in responding to God during corporate worship?