

Philosophy of Worship

For the genuine Christian, all that we say and do should be an act of worship (1 Corinthians 10:31). Therefore, the common cultural view of worship as singing *only*, falls far short of the Biblical perspective.

It is the duty and the great privilege of Christians to gather together to worship corporately (Hebrews 10:24-25), as well as privately and with our families. At FBF, we teach and encourage families to worship together regularly. When a believing husband and/or father is present in the family, it is primarily his responsibility to lead family worship which should include times of singing, prayer, devotions and service.

We also encourage families to participate together in corporate worship. We believe that it is not beneficial or Biblical to segregate children and youth away from adults when we gather for corporate worship. For this reason, we encourage families to participate together when we are gathered together as a church for worship, prayer, fellowship or service. A nursery and Sunday School are offered for children up to 3rd grade during our worship service. We prefer for students 4th grade and older to sit their parents through the entire worship service on Sunday mornings.

Finally, we believe worship (worth-ship) is an act of giving God glory and honor. Worship is not primarily about us: how the music makes us feel, whether we are entertained by the message or come away feeling good. Worship is our offering to the Lord. Therefore, we believe that our times of corporate worship are primarily for believers to ascribe honor and glory to the Lord, and to be fed, nurtured and challenged by the preaching and teaching of the Word of God. Since it is impossible for an unbeliever to truly worship God, we do not go to any special lengths to make our worship service meaningful or relevant to an unbeliever. This is not to say that unbelievers are unwelcome, but rather that we do not see Sunday morning primarily in terms of outreach or as our primary evangelistic tool. Our Sunday morning worship is oriented toward believers in content and structure and has a God-ward focus.