

COLLEGE HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH

Study Guide

Conducting Worship in the Church

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Major Points

- 1 Men are specifically commanded to pray and lead in prayer, lifting up holy hands as an expression of dependence and praise**
1 Timothy 2:8
- 2 Prayer and worship require pure hearts -- anger and arguing disqualify us from effective communion with God**
1 Timothy 2:8
- 3 Women are to prioritize inner godliness and good works over outward appearance when coming to worship**
1 Timothy 2:9-10
- 4 God has established distinct roles for men and women in corporate worship, rooted in creation order, not cultural norms**
1 Timothy 2:12-13
- 5 Submission in this context is to the Word of God, not to the domination of men, and the church was actually liberating for women in the ancient world**
1 Timothy 2:11
- 6 True worship is not about promoting our rights or ourselves but about honoring Christ who gave Himself for us**
Romans 5:8

Key Quotes

“Blessings are not found in selfishness. Blessings are found in godliness.

at 4:23

“If you don't know how to pray, that's because you haven't been praying. And you don't even understand the purpose of prayer. Prayer is simply communicating with God.

at 10:33

“You being shy is no excuse for you being ungodly.

at 11:41

“We don't get to say, lifting up hands is something we don't have to do because it wasn't designed for us today.

at 14:03

"This whole passage is not about men, it's not about women, it's about us acknowledging him and worshiping him the way he deserves to be worshipped.

at 14:48

"It's not about us. It's really about him. It's about worshiping him the way we should worship him. It's not about promoting our rights. It's not about promoting ourselves.

at 43:47

Discussion Questions

1. Why does Paul specifically instruct men to pray with lifted hands, and what does this physical posture communicate about our relationship with God?
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2. How does unresolved anger or a desire to always be right practically hinder your prayer life and worship experience?
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3. What is the difference between legalistic dress codes and the heart attitude Paul is calling women to in verses 9-10?
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4. How does understanding the ancient cultural context -- where women were often barred from learning -- change the way we read verse 11 about women learning quietly with full submission?
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5. The sermon emphasizes that worship is 'not about us, it's about Him.' In what specific ways do we make corporate worship about ourselves rather than about God?
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Word Studies

πραϋς
praus

Greek

Gentle, meek, mild -- describes the disposition opposite of anger and contentiousness that Paul urges men to cultivate in prayer

Usage: 4 times (Matthew 5:5, 11:29, 21:5; 1 Peter 3:4)

ὡσίος
hosios

Greek

Holy, devout, pious -- used in 1 Timothy 2:8 for 'holy hands,' denoting moral purity and consecration rather than ceremonial cleanness

Usage: 8 times (Acts 2:27, 13:34-35; 1 Timothy 2:8; Titus 1:8; Hebrews 7:26; Revelation 15:4, 16:5)

αἰδώς
aidos

Greek

Modesty, reverence, a sense of shame before what is improper -- describes the inner disposition of respect and propriety Paul calls women to exhibit

Usage: 1 time (1 Timothy 2:9)

Cross References

Colossians 3:16-17

Parallel instruction on corporate worship -- doing everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, teaching and admonishing one another with thankful hearts

1 Corinthians 14:33-35

Paul's parallel teaching on women remaining silent in the churches, with the same principle of orderliness in corporate worship

Genesis 2:7, 21-22

The creation order Paul references as the basis for distinct male and female roles -- Adam formed first from dust, then Eve from Adam's rib

Genesis 3:1-6

The account of Eve's deception by the serpent that Paul cites as the second reason for the teaching on women's roles in the church

Psalm 141:2

The Old Testament precedent of lifting hands in prayer as an offering to God -- 'Let my prayer be set before You as incense, the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice'

Further Reading

- **Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood**
by John Piper and Wayne Grudem
- **Letters to the Church: A Commentary on First and Second Timothy and Titus**
by William Mounce
- **A Theology of the Church and Its Mission**
by Andreas Kostenberger and Peter O'Brien

Scripture References

REFERENCE	TYPE	TIME	CONTEXT
1 Timothy 2:8-15	Read Aloud	7:10	Therefore, I want the men in every place to pray, ...
1 Timothy 3:15	Referenced	1:00	...so that you may know how one ought to conduct h...
Ephesians 2:8-9	Read Aloud	39:20	For you are saved by grace through faith and this ...
Romans 12:1	Read Aloud	28:20	I urge you, therefore, by the mercies of God that ...
1 Peter 5:6-7	Read Aloud	22:00	Humble yourself the Bible says under the mighty ha...
Romans 5:8	Referenced	43:20	God demonstrates His love toward us in that while ...