

1 Corinthians 14 and the Worship Assembly

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What is the purpose of worship? We can say that it is to praise and glorify God. The Giving of thanks is also a big part of worship. One surprising part is that worship involved the edification of Christians (1 Cor. 14). Worship in the Old Testament was primarily the priestly observances and the Feast days, Holy Convocations of Israel coming together.

The context of 1 Corinthians 14 begins in chapter 11 with the introduction of the worship assembly. In Chapter 11 Paul speaks about the Lord's Supper and the importance of being in the right mindset. Paul continues on worship in chapter 12 discussing membership and miraculous gifts. Chapter 13 then speaks about the importance of love for one another and the end of spiritual gifts. Finally, chapter 14 brings all of this together, speaking of what we need to be considering with worship.

Finding application in 1 Corinthians 14 involved understanding decently and in order, and that not everyone speaks (One at a time and Women are "silent"). What are the big ideas of worship?

- 1) It is about God, not man
 - We are not pursuing holy entertainment
 - We are seeking to please God

- 2) It is about holiness
 - Prepared in our minds
 - Mindsets achieved ahead of time

- 3) It is about sacrifice for our vow
 - Sacrificing time, effort, etc.
 - Our sacred confession

- 4) It is dangerous if done carelessly
 - Worship exposes us to God

The Worship Assembly reflects our need to worship God. It is our part of the covenant. God deserves it. We are blessed by it – John 9:31