

The Business of the Church

Ezra 3

Worship is the most important thing we do!

We were created to glorify God and enjoy Him forever.

As a church, we are a worshipping community before we are anything else.

1. Worship celebrates our relationship with God.
2. Worship motivates our service to God.
3. Worship is the one thing we'll do forever.

FOR FURTHER THOUGHT:

1. When you move to a new town, what are the first things you try to take care of? Which is your highest priority? Why?
2. Respond to this statement: “Evangelism exists because worship does not.” Do you agree that worship is the main business of the church? How does worship relate to evangelism, missions, and disciplemaking? What makes worship so important?
3. What have you seen used as means of motivating people in a church to serve God? What motivates you in your service to God? See Psalm 116:12 - what was David’s motivation for service?
4. If you were designing a worship service, and had complete freedom in doing so, what would you put in it?
5. Read Ezra 3:3 in as many translations as you have present (use your apps!). There are a couple ways of interpreting the fear mentioned there (NIV “Despite their fear...” or NASB “for they were terrified...”). What are the implications of each?
6. Why did the people in Ezra’s day rebuild the altar before the temple or the city walls? What might your input to the discussion have been if you had been present at that time?
7. What’s the best worship experience you can remember? What made it that way?
8. What’s the relationship between personal worship and corporate worship? Do you have a good experience of personal worship throughout the week? What makes it so? Do you need to get some help in making it better?