

Our church theme in 2014 is to “Revive worship and Spread the gospel”. According to some church growth research, if the worship is touching, the church can grow fast.

Peter Wagner, a modern theologian, ever said, “If every week’s worship is boring, lifeless, and not encouraging, people will then lose the motive to return to church for worships.”



In fact, every week when we meet together, it is to worship that risen Christ, that powerful and eternal God. Therefore we should be full of energy and passion to worship Him.

A.W. Tozer claimed that worship is the treasure what this century has lost. He said, “The church these days are rich in all aspects except the art of worshipping God.”

Today we have to relearn together this lost art of worshipping God. First, we have to know what worship is – ‘Worship’ is composed of two words. They are ‘worth’ and ‘ship’, meaning to return to God the praise and thankfulness what He is worth to receive.

In other words, going to church to worship God on Sunday is definitely not for watching the performance of the worship team, or listening to their or others singing. It is to fully involve oneself to offer to God their praise and thankfulness by means of singing and praying.

If one has to completely participate in worship, they have to first feel the indwelling of God. Therefore one has to first take some quiet time, meditate God’s grace, faith, and greatness, to experience His indwelling and to produce an earnest heart for God. Just as what the Psalm poet exclaimed, “As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.” (Psalm 42:1) “You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.” (Psalm 63:1)

Brothers and sisters, if we have the earnest heart for God, we then would arrive at God’s temple early every Sunday and well prepare our heart to meet God.

Hoping in the coming year we can practise and revive our worship attitude to please God:

1. Be punctual to attend worship gatherings, not to arrive late.
2. Not to expect getting return from attending worship. Every one of us is to play the role of priest to offer to God. It is to give, not to take or get reward. Therefore, to attend worship is not to come to watch how well the worship team is performing. We must clearly understand the focus of worship is God Himself. During worship, only God is in our eyes and heart; and we should urge ourselves to offer to God what is our best. Even if we are not familiar with the lyrics, or not know how to sing, we can still wholeheartedly participate by following the rhythm or others. God is watching our internal worshipping attitude and would be pleased with our offering for certain.
3. Jesus once reminded us that the indifferent attitude towards God annoys Him. God cares our offering that is full of passion. Therefore when we worship God, we have to offer our praise and thankfulness with all our heart, our mind, our will and our effort to God.
4. For an offering pleasing to God, the one who offers must possess a good life. During the times of the Old Testament, the priests had to offer the sin offering for their own selves before they could purify themselves, then they could offer for the people. Therefore we have to be very careful about our words, acts and character in our daily life. We have to live a holy life and review our sins before God everyday to ask for His forgiveness. Before worship, ask the Holy Spirit to shine on us, let us see our own hidden sin. Ask God to forgive us and pledge to repent; then offer to God.

Brothers and sisters let us pray together. Pledge first from our own worshipping attitude to God, then lead Hills Alliance Church to have the worship pleasing to God every Sunday. Amen!