

# Worship

*What it is, and why it matters  
more than anything else.*

**A LIFE OF WORSHIP**

**ROMANS 12:1-2**

**Ted Voltmer - June 18, 2023**

“Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

1. Romans 12 begins with the word Therefore. As Pastor Ted stated, Romans 12 turns the corner from the first eleven chapters. What does this mean in view of today’s message?
2. This sermon series has defined worship as “Our whole-life response to whatever we value the most”. How has your definition of worship and your worship style changed because of on the series?
3. God’s mercy is evident throughout Scripture, beginning with Adam and Eve. How does God’s mercy contrast with man’s imperfect perception of fairness and justice? How is Jesus the embodiment of God’s mercy and grace?
4. The Apostle Paul and JR Packer state that a heart of gratitude, not for gain or repayment, should guide us. How does this response influence the non-believer? Can you provide personal examples?
5. Pastor Ted described “living sacrifice” as an oxymoron. How does this describe the virtuous cycle of worship? Why would Paul’s original audience think this was bizarre? Why might our current society react the same way?
6. Keller described our culture as the most self-centered in history. To the non-believer, basing ones moral or ethical decisions on the guidance of the Holy Spirit and Scripture is contradictory to how their lives are led. On the contrary, as believers, why does basing these decisions on imperfect human beings seem illogical?
7. Pastor Ted identified praise and prayer as components of the virtuous cycle of worship. How do praise and prayer blend together in worship? How do both lead to being in the presence of God and an authentic worship experience? How might missing one affect ones relationship with the Lord?
8. How does The Chapel’s mission statement “Love God, love people, serve the world” and its activities lead to the virtuous cycle of the message. Please share your personal experiences that illustrate your practical application of the sermon’s teaching and its relation to the mission statement. What church outreaches are an especially practical application to the public of Romans 12?