



NEW Covenant *worship* guidelines

Worship that honors the priesthood of all believers and encourages everyone to interact directly with God throughout the service, under God's obvious control!

- A. **Start with a brief song and prayer that encourages testimony**
- B. **Time of Testimony and Praise**
 1. **Review the week** for what God has done for you, your family, or friends. **Be very specific.**
For example: any—close calls; unexpected blessings; opportunities to witness; divine math; peace that passes understanding; joy (happiness in spite of the world); forgiveness toward or from others? victory over temptations or sins; God's mind over your matter (Bible made a difference in real life); healing? dramatic turnarounds?
 2. **Review the Bible for Psalms and check the hymnal for Scripture songs that echo the theme of the people's testimonies and fall into the following categories:**
For example: God's triumphs—at Creation (over the nothingness, things turning out right, etc.); on behalf of His people (walls of Jericho, Gideon and the 300, David's victory over Goliath, etc.); over death (widow of Zarephath's son, Elijah, Lazarus, the resurrection, etc.); over nature (parted Red Sea, made the sun stand still, Jesus calming the Sea, etc.); over human nature (harden Pharaoh's heart, caused Pharaoh to promote Joseph, repentance, etc.)
- C. **Expressions of Respect that lead people to make the journey to the Cross**
 1. Check **Genesis to the Gospels** for texts that use today's theme to point to the cross
 2. **Pray or read from scripture about such things as:**
The Creator turning Redeemer (for example, Gen. 3:15); the Sanctuary; prophecies about: salvation, the Messiah (God's Anointed/Chosen King and Shepherd), the Savior, restoration, the Kingdom
- D. **Appeals for Loyalty that inspire people to make the journey from the cross to the Kingdom**
 1. Check **Acts to Revelation** for exhortations, admonitions, and blessings that use today's theme to point to the Kingdom
 2. **Study, act out, or explain from scripture such things as:**
Stories of the Re-Creator, the Redeemer, the good Shepherd, the High-Priest Jesus and the priesthood of all believers, the second coming, the King and the Kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth
- E. **End on a note of hope with prayer and a closing song**