

Note:

Course content may be changed, term to term, without notice. The information below is provided as a guide for course selection and is not binding in any form, and should not be used to purchase course materials.

COURSE SYLLABUS

WRSP 510

BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS OF WORSHIP

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A study of the principles of worship as found in the Old and New Testaments. Includes study of the Tabernacle as a model of worship, worship in the lives of biblical characters, and the biblical roots of worship practices developed by the early church.

RATIONALE

The need for qualified, trained, and equipped worship leaders has never been greater. Today's worship leaders are responsible for developing a theological base and biblical understanding of worship for those they lead. These responsibilities require understanding of the role of Old Testament worship and New Testament worship in the life of believers today. They need to know the structure and implications of Hebrew worship as applied to 21st Century evangelical ministry. Further, an understanding of the worship of Jesus will provide a model for leadership in the church today.

This course is designed to meet these needs by telling *a story*. This is the story of worship from Genesis through Revelation. Just as the narrative of redemption is interwoven through the pages of the Bible, God's plan for us to worship Him is articulated, explained, illustrated, documented, and applied throughout the pages of His Word. Beginning with Genesis and the truth that God is the ultimate Creator and concluding with worship of The Lamb in The Revelation, principles of worship are drawn from the lives of biblical heroes, ordinary people, events, Old and New Testament practices, biblical poetry, the wisdom books, the life of Christ, the epistles, and Old and New Testament prophecy.

I. PREREQUISITES

For information regarding prerequisites for this course, please refer to the [Academic Course Catalog](#).

II. REQUIRED RESOURCE PURCHASES

Click on the following link to view the required resource(s) for the term in which you are registered: <http://bookstore.mbsdirect.net/liberty.htm>

III. ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FOR LEARNING

- A. Computer with Internet access (broadband recommended)
- B. Microsoft Word
(Microsoft Office is available at a special discount to Liberty University students.)
- C. Free online Bible, such as <http://www.biblegateway.com>
- D. Internet access to free online Bible commentaries

IV. MEASURABLE LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

- A. Articulate God's plan for biblical worship from Genesis to Revelation.
- B. Explain why the worship of the Old Testament applies to today's worship models.
- C. Describe how God's plan for worship in the Old Testament and New Testament are related.
- D. Articulate the principles for worship leadership taught by Jesus and practiced by his disciples.
- E. Organize a glossary of terms supporting the Biblical Foundations for Worship.
- F. Design a series of lessons that show how God's plan for worship is traced from The Genesis to The Revelation.

V. COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A. Textbook readings and lecture presentations/notes

B. Course Requirements Checklist

After reading the Syllabus and [Student Expectations](#), the student will complete the related checklist found in Module/Week 1.

C. Discussion Board Forums (8)

Each module/week, the student will participate in a Discussion Board Forum. The student will post a thread of 300–350 words discussing various assigned topics related to biblical worship, and then post replies to the threads of at least 2 classmates with 150–200 words each. Threads should contain at least 2 citations, and each reply should have 1 citation; acceptable sources include the course textbooks and the Bible. (Outcomes: A, B, C, D)

D. Things to Remember (8)

At the conclusion of each chapter in Whaley's *Called to Worship*, is a section entitled "Principles from this Chapter About Worship." Using this portion of the chapter as source material, a question will be crafted each module/week to help the student articulate critical things to be remembered about worship. (Outcomes: C, E, F)

E. Defining Words for Worship

Using the required reading from the Hill text, the student will complete an 8–10-page word study on 6 key terms used for worship (such as "honor," "praise," "serve," etc.). The pages must include texts and charts, but the cover page and bibliography page do not count as part of the 8–10-page requirement. Three key terms should come from the Old Testament and three key terms should come from the New Testament. (Outcomes: A, B, E)

F. Book Report

The student will read *One Thing Needful* by Mathena and then write a book report in a chapter-by-chapter summary-analysis format (an example and template are provided in the Assignment Instructions folder). (Outcomes: A, D, F)

G. Research Paper

The student will write a 12–15-page paper tracing God's plan for worship from Genesis through Revelation. The project will be titled "The Story of Worship" and will employ class notes, materials suggested or recommended in class, recordings or any other materials on Internet websites, and church or denominational publications and resource materials. It will be composed in current Turabian format and must include footnotes and a bibliography with 10–12 scholarly sources. (Outcomes: A, D)

H. Exam

The student will complete an open-book/open-notes exam covering the material from Chapters 1–15 of *Called to Worship*, the weekly lectures, and related study materials used to answer the Things to Remember exercises. The exam must be completed in a 2-hour period and will consist of 50 questions, including both 25 true/false and 25 multiple-choice questions. (Outcomes: A, B, D)

VI. COURSE GRADING AND POLICIES

A. Points

Course Requirements Checklist	10
Discussion Board Forums (8 at 30 pts ea)	240
Things to Remember (8 at 20 pts ea)	160
Defining Words for Worship	150
Book Report	100
Research Paper	200
Exam	150
Total	1010

B. Scale

A = 940–1010 A- = 920–939 B+ = 900–919 B = 860–899 B- = 840–859
 C+ = 820–839 C = 780–819 C- = 760–779 D+ = 740–759 D = 700–739
 D- = 680–699 F = 679 and below

C. Disability Assistance

Students with a documented disability may contact Liberty University Online's Office of Disability Academic Support (ODAS) at LUOODAS@liberty.edu to make arrangements for academic accommodations. Further information can be found at www.liberty.edu/disabilitysupport.

VII. BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allen, R. and G. Borrer. *Worship: Rediscovering the Missing Jewel*. Portland: Multnomah, 1987.
- Best, H. *Unceasing Worship: Biblical Perspectives on Worship and the Arts*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003.
- Boa, K. *Face to Face: Praying the Scripture for Intimate Worship*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997. ISBN: 9780310925507.
- Chambers, O. J. *My Utmost for His Highest*. London: Oswald Chambers Publications Association, 1963.
- Due, N. *Created for Worship*. Fearn, Ross-shire: Christian Focus Publications, 2005.
- Roberts, V. *God's Big Picture: Tracing the Storyline of the Bible*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

COURSE SCHEDULE

WRSP 510

Textbooks: Hill, *Enter His Courts with Praise!* (1993).
 Mathena, *One Thing Needful* (2013)
 Whaley, *Biblical Foundations for Worship* (2011).
 Whaley, *Called to Worship* (2013).

MODULE/ WEEK	READING & STUDY	ASSIGNMENTS	POINTS
1	Hill: ch. 1 Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : chs. 1–6 4 presentations	Course Requirements Checklist	10
		Class Introductions	0
		DB Forum 1	30
		Things to Remember 1	20
2	Mathena: chs. 1–2 Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : chs. 7–11 4 presentations	DB Forum 2	30
		Things to Remember 2	20
		Defining Words for Worship	150
3	Mathena: chs. 3-4 Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : chs. 12–14 4 presentations	DB Forum 3	30
		Things to Remember 3	20
4	Mathena: chs. 5-6 Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : ch. 15, Summary II 2 presentations	DB Forum 4	30
		Things to Remember 4	20
5	Mathena: chs. 7-8 Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : chs. 16–17 3 presentations	DB Forum 5	30
		Things to Remember 5	20
		Exam	150
6	Mathena: ch. 9 Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : ch. 18 2 presentations	DB Forum 6	30
		Things to Remember 6	20
7	Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : chs. 19–20 2 presentations	DB Forum 7	30
		Things to Remember 7	20
		Book Report	100
8	Whaley, <i>Called to Worship</i> : ch. 21, Summary III 4 presentations	DB Forum 8	30
		Things to Remember 8	20
		Research Paper	200
TOTAL			1010

DB = Discussion Board

NOTE: Each course week begins on Monday morning at 12:00 a.m. (ET) and ends on Sunday night at 11:59 p.m. (ET). The final week ends at 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Friday.