

Series: 4WARD on the Journey
Message: In Celebration We Proclaim – Loving God
Text: 2 Timothy 4:1-6 (AM 1/7/18)

What is worship? Ask the average Church goer what worship is to them and you'll get a plethora of responses. Most of the definitions will be determined by our background and tastes. *Biblical worship is the abandoned allegiance of the worshipper in adoration of Christ and His Glory.* Worship is not confined to a specific place or a pattern. Worship is a verb. It should occur 24/7 from our closet to His Church. Scripture defines *worship as a lifestyle.*

While there are at least 6 components of worship – Praise, Prayer, Bible Reading, Giving, Consecration and Preaching. All of which are vitally important. Preaching remains *central* to Worship. In today's text the Apostle Paul reminds his protégé Timothy and us of the preeminence of preaching. Loving God is the launching point for moving *FORWARD* on the Journey.

I. Preaching is Central to Worship (1-2a)

Worship prepares the worshipper for the Word

- The preacher's authority (1a) *"I charge you before God..."*
- The preacher's accountability (1b) *"Christ who will judge the living..."*
- The preacher's attention (2a) *"Preach the Word!"*

II. Preaching Calls us to Worship (2b; 5)

Proclamation of the Word transforms the worshipper

- The preacher's audience (2b) *"Be ready in season and out..."*
- The preacher's assignment (2c) *"Convince, rebuke, exhort..."*
- The preacher's affection (2d) *"With all longsuffering and teaching..."*

III. Preaching's Challenge to the Worshipper (3-4)

Transformed worshippers long for genuine worship

- The worshipper's appetite (3a) *"They will not endure sound doctrine"*
- The worshipper's allegiance (3b) *"They will heap up...teachers"*
- The worshipper's application (4) *"They will turn...away from the truth"*

Application to life: Wherever you live, or work is a pulpit from which you preach the Gospel. Preaching remains central to the Churches corporate worship. Your thirst for corporate worship is whet in your closet. *Are you committed to moving FORWARD on the first step of the Journey in worship? Faithful worshippers are energized for the Journey to Christlikeness!*