

Worship Matters Video Intensive with Bob Kauflin
Session 4: Our Task (Part 2)
(From Chapters 9-10 of *Worship Matters*)¹
Outline & Discussion Questions

*A faithful worship leader
magnifies the greatness of God
in Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit
by skillfully combining God's Word with music,
thereby motivating the gathered church to proclaim the gospel,
to cherish God's presence, and to live for God's glory.*

I. ...In Jesus Christ...

"For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ." - 2 Corinthians 4:6²

"For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." - 1 Corinthians 2:2

"For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures." - 1 Corinthians 15:3

"But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." - Galatians 6:14

A. The Cross and Worship

The cross and resurrection cannot and should not be separated, but at the heart of our relationship with God is the substitutionary death of the Son of God, apart from which nothing else makes sense.

"Christ is to us just what his cross is. All that Christ was in heaven or on earth was put into what he did there... You do not understand Christ till you understand his cross." - P.T. Forsyth³

1. Jesus and his work on the cross give us access to God.

“Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.” - Hebrews 10:19–22

2. Jesus and his work on the cross make our worship acceptable to God.

“You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” - 1 Peter 2:5

3. Jesus and his work on the cross most fully reveal the glory of God.

In Christ we behold the wisdom, goodness, love, grace, mercy, and power of God all working together for the great work of our redemption and salvation. The wisdom and love of God are in themselves infinitely glorious. But we cannot see how glorious they are except in the redemption and salvation of the church which is achieved only in and by Christ. - John Owen⁴

In the cross we see:

- God’s **justice** requiring a perfect payment for sins committed against a perfectly holy God
- God’s **holiness** acting to judge our sin by pouring out his wrath on his own Son
- God’s **mercy** providing a substitute for rebellious, helpless sinners
- God’s **wisdom** providing a solution for a seemingly impossible dilemma

“We never, therefore, move on from the cross of Christ, only into a more profound understanding of the cross.” - David Prior⁵

4. Jesus and his work on the cross are eternally significant to God.

“And they sang a new song, saying, ‘Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.’” - Revelation 5:9–10

II. ...through the Power of the Holy Spirit...

A. Worship by the Spirit

We are those “who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—” - Philippians 3:3

1. We put no confidence in the flesh. (Scripture and prayer)

2. We expect God to act powerfully when we gather. (Faith)

3. We respond to his direction. (Responsiveness)

“He is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you.” - 1 Corinthians 14:24-25

Session 4 Discussion Questions:

1. What things, other than the cross, compete for your attention when you lead?
2. What are practical ways you can remind yourself and your church that Christ and his work on the cross give us access to God?
3. How could remembering that Jesus makes our worship acceptable to God change the way you think about your performance as a musician/singer?
4. What things are you tempted to depend on to get the job done rather than the Holy Spirit?
5. What are some practical ways you can express your dependence on God?
6. How can you personally grow in responding to the Spirit's guidance and direction during worship leading?

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³ Taken from *The Cruciality of The Cross* by P.T. Forsyth, p. 44-45. Published by Hodder and Stoughton, London, 1909.

⁴ Taken from *The Glory of Christ* by John Owen © 1966, p. 25. Published by Banner of Truth UK. Used by permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.

⁵ Taken from *The Message of 1 Corinthians* by David Prior © 2014, p. xxxiii. Published by InterVarsity Press, Westmont, IL. Used by permission of the publisher. All rights reserved.