

**Break it down: worship**

- "worth" and "ship" (or full of worth)
- "obligation" VS "desire" - (winning favor Vs enjoying God & His presence and promises)
- "True worship involves reverential ***human acts of submission and homage*** before the divine Sovereign in response to his gracious revelation of himself and in accord with his will." (Block. 23)
- Worship declares "this is worthy of my thoughts, time, labors, and affections." (Kauflin. 56)
- Worship *is* "the difference between Bible knowledge that leads to pride and that which leads to praise." (Kauflin. 56)

**Tim Hawkins Video:** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TK2\\_ezOBa2A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TK2_ezOBa2A)

**A) Exalting God in our Gestures****1. Gestures are normal**

- In our world
  - Hand-shaking, bowing, surrender (white-flag), blowing a kiss, football
- In the Biblical world (Block. 12-13)
  - (hist-a-ha-weh)* { "literally refer to subjects prostrated before a superior, a posture that states the equivalent of "Long live the king.""
  - proskyneo*
  - Old Testament: Joshua 5:13-15; Ps 95:7; Neh. 8:6
  - New Testament: PAUL: Acts 24:11; Ephesians 3:14; Philippians 2:10

**2. Gestures are reverential**

Non-sacred sense: **Genesis 43:26-28:** 26 When Joseph came home, they brought him the gift they had carried into the house, and they bowed to the ground before him. 27 He asked if they were well, and he said, "How is your elderly father that you told me about? Is he still alive?" 28 They answered, "Your servant our father is well. He is still alive." And they bowed down to honor (or homage) him.

Sacred sense: **1 Samuel 6:12-16:** 12 It was reported to King David: "The Lord has blessed Obed-edom's family and all that belongs to him because of the ark of God." So David went and had the ark of God brought up from Obed-edom's house to the city of David with rejoicing. 13 When those carrying the ark of the Lord advanced six steps, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened calf. 14 David was dancing with all his might before the Lord wearing a linen ephod. 15 He and the whole house of Israel were bringing up the ark of the Lord with shouts and the sound of the ram's horn. 16 *As the ark of the Lord was entering the city of David, Saul's daughter Michal looked down from the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, and she despised him in her heart.* **how do we respond to others' joy of the Lord? Do we despise it, affirm it, or join in?**

Sacred sense: **1 Timothy 2:8:** "8 Therefore, I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or argument."

**3. Gestures are personal**

- Freedom in worship: **2 Corinthians 3:13:** "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom."
- Being led by a conviction to express praise what is happening in your heart.
- My explanation every service: free to stand, sit, how ever you *feel* led to worship

- 2 Testimony videos  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mNUHeaKfy80>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBXLJMyL004>

#### 4. Gestures are influential

- Corporate worship influence: **1 Timothy 2:8**: "8 Therefore, I want the men in every place to pray, lifting up holy hands without anger or argument."
- Power in expression - especially from the men, guys, hint-hint

#### 5. Gestures are effectual or (credible)

- Waving a white flag: surrendering in battle
- How did God tangibly express the love He spoke of for millennia?
- The Incarnation: Christ surrendered His body before the Lord on Calvary
- The church surrendering their bodies in worship, whether it's your hands, feet, mouths, or just your hearts, these are bodily offerings being subjected before the Lord in service and song: praise *incarnated*
- *So, lift high the name of Jesus*

#### B) Exalting God beyond the gesture:

**Deuteronomy 10:12-13**: 12 "And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you except to fear the Lord your God by walking in all His ways, to love Him, and to worship (or serve) the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul? 13 Keep the Lord's commands and statutes I am giving you today, for your own good."

**Colossians 3:23-24** 23 Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men, 24 knowing that you will receive the reward of an inheritance from the Lord. You serve the Lord Christ.

Depth of your Heart of Worship

depends on your willingness to let God reveal Himself in the reconstruction of your life - the more we let God reveal Himself to us inside or outside these church walls, the more we will be drawn sing to His praises even more vibrantly.

#### C) Tip of the Iceberg - The Bottomline Reality

Our singing and corporate worship IS SHAPED by our spiritual lives outside these walls.

-sometimes we arrive with exuberant JOY or DISASTER on our hands

Gestures (whether hand raising, kneeling, or even bowing) provide us a tangible, transparent way to engage God as He engages our hearts beneath the surface.

But remember, practicing corporate gestures and ordinances are just the tip of the iceberg in the Christian worship experience - just because we raise our hands in worship doesn't make us more spiritual **or** if we don't raise our hands in worship - are our **hearts** feasting on the truth?

Called to come, listen and observe, examine what's beneath the surface, and respond accordingly

-May our GESTURES & LIVES truly incarnate our praise

**Works Cited**

Block, Daniel Isaac. *For the Glory of God: Recovering a Biblical Theology of Worship*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, a division of Baker Publishing Group, 2014.

Kauflin, Bob. *True Worshipers*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.