

## **Upward in Worship**

A church committed to the Scriptures is a one whose central purpose is upwardly focused on God, inwardly committed to growing Christ-centered community, and outwardly empowered for mission. The series begins with the upward and ultimate purpose and passion of God's people, which is worship.

What is worship? The Greek word for worship is "proskuneo." The word "proskuneo" is to recognize something/someone of superior value and ultimate worth. The word "worship" is a shortened form of an Old English word "worthship." Worthship is to assign worth, value or esteem to something or someone.

Tim Keller employs this illustration to define worship. Let's say you have a nice piece of jewelry. In your mind, while not expensive, it has practical and sentimental value. One day you are wearing it, a noted jeweler notices your piece of jewelry. He approaches you and inquires if he can examine it. It turns out that it is not what you thought it was. It is a piece of jewelry crafted by a famous 17th century craftsman and worth \$5,000,000.

Besides asking if this was "Candid Camera" or some spoof on Antique Road Show, your entire attitude toward this everyday piece of jewelry would radically change. Your mind would be filled with its worth. You would do anything and everything to maintain and enhance its worth. This is worship.

Great Peace in the Lord,  
Eddie