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Worship and Our Faith Vocabulary

Calvin Symposium on Worship: Word, Music, Vision, Action

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Worship and Our Faith Vocabulary
Symposium, January 28, 2010
Betty Grit, Calvin Institute of Christian Worship

Love You	_____
Sorry	_____
Why?	_____
I'm listening	_____
Help	_____
Thank you	_____
What can I do?	_____
Bless You	_____
Here I Stand	_____

Reflection

What can Vertical Habits teach us about worship, about God, about ourselves?

How can our faith vocabulary help us make a connection between our Sunday and chapel worship and the way we live the rest of the week?

How can we begin to view worship as God's "language school"?

How can worship shape other areas of school life: classroom, sports, community service, fellowship, justice, hospitality, missions?

How can Vertical Habits help us listen for God's voice in the words of Scripture?

How can the development of our faith vocabulary help us pray more intentionally, humbly, regularly and confidently?

All visual art used in this presentation can be found on our website

www.calvin.edu/worship/habits

Questions? Contact Betty Grit worshipgrants@calvin.edu

What is Worship Renewal?

Worship renewal cannot be reduced to a formula or generated by a set of techniques. As you begin your planning, we invite you to prayerfully consider these dynamics and characteristics of worship renewal, which we continue to learn about from the work of congregations.

- Worship renewal cannot be produced or engineered by human ingenuity, but is a gift of God's Spirit. Renewal is a gift for which we pray, rather than an accomplishment we achieve.
- Worship renewal mines the riches of scripture and leads worshipers to deeper encounters with Christ and the gospel message.
- Worship renewal arises from, and leads to, the full, conscious, and active participation of all worshipers—young and old, the powerless and powerful, newcomers and lifelong worshipers.
- Worship renewal leads a congregation beyond itself to give itself away to minister to the needs of the local community and the world.
- Worship renewal happens best in healthy congregations, which are marked by honesty, integrity, unity, and pastoral concern for each worshiper.

Ten Core Convictions About Christian Worship

1. A vivid awareness of the beauty, majesty, mystery and holiness of the triune God.
2. The full, conscious, active participation of all worshipers, in the context of a fully intergenerational community.
3. Deep engagement with Scripture
4. Joyful and solemn celebrations of baptism and the Lord's Supper, which focus squarely on the redemptive work of Jesus Christ in all of creation, and are deeply aware of how God's spirit works to nurture and strengthen faith through these celebrations.
5. Balanced approach to culture
6. Disciplined creativity in the arts
7. Collaboration with congregational ministries
8. Warm, Christ-centered hospitality for all people
9. Intentional integration between worship and all of life
10. Collaborative planning and evaluation

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