

# Sunday Worship Service

## Principles for Speaking in Service

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.*

I Peter 4:10-12

Firstly, thank you for serving God and the church in this way. The speaking roles in service play a special role in moving people's hearts towards God. Remember, speaking before the church is an act of service, not a performance. God will use us as we give Him our best!

### IMPORTANT NOTE TO PREPARE FOR THE SERVICE:

1. Come dressed business casual, unless a special service like outdoor.
2. Read the scripture a few times before reading it before the church.
3. Have a note card or piece of paper with an outline. Sometimes, we can get nervous and forget and say things off the cuff.
  - a. Write down the first line you are going to say
  - b. Write down bullet points for the body of the sharing
  - c. Write down the last line you are going to say
4. Arrive to the pre-service meeting at 10:15 am on Sunday
5. Spend some quality time in prayer before coming to church.
6. **Remember:** Every part of the service is important to our worship of God.

### THE WELCOME (3-5 minutes)

The purpose of the welcome is to "welcome" those who have come to worship with us today but more importantly to set everyone's heart in a place so that they are prepared to worship God. The welcome should be focused on praising and adoring God. It may be helpful to look up the word worship before hand.

### Elements of a welcome

1. **A general welcome for everyone who has come to worship God with us. If it is a special occasion like Christmas, Easter or another holiday, it would be appropriate to mention that in this part as well.** Ex. *I would like to welcome everyone this morning in joining us in our worship service at the Kanawha Valley Church.*
    - a. **Avoid using the word "visitors."** It is better to welcome family and friends that are visiting with us.
  2. **Introduction of yourself (and spouse).** Ex. *My name is Michael and Janet Jackson*
  3. **Share a scripture to prepare the hearts for worship. This is not a sermon. Below are some great examples, but they are best if they are meaningful to you.**
    - o Psalms 8, 19, 104 and 148 God is praised as Creator of the Universe
    - o Psalms 66, 100, 111, 114 and 148 God is praised as the protector or benefactor
    - o Psalms 33, 103, 113, 117, 145-147 God is praised as the Lord of History
  4. **The reader and/or partner can share how this scripture aids them in worshipping God. The reader should share first, then their partner.**

**It is powerful to share personally: a story from the week, a connection to current events, etc**

Ex. **After Reading Psalm 100:** *Today, we have come to Worship the Lord with gladness, with joyful song and with shouts of joy. I prayed this morning that as we began to worship **God** this morning that we would remember that we are in the presence of the **Lord our God** who has made each and everyone one of us.*

*As we worship this morning let us "Enter the gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Let us give thanks to God for giving us another day and opportunity to praise his name and most importantly let us also be reminded that the Lord is good, his love endures forever, his faithfulness continues through all generations.*

*Today, let us set our hearts on worshipping our great and awesome God. Now, let us pray for God to prepare our hearts for worship before our mighty God.*
  5. **Pray**
    - Adoration of God (his power, his greatness, his love, etc.
    - For our hearts to be prepared to worship God. (to take away the distractions of the world)
    - That we will make decisions to change our lives as we hear Gods word.
    - Pray that God's spirit will move through those speaking today.
    - Special prayers (current issues in the world, health, etc.)
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# Communion/Benevolence ( 6-8 minutes)

## Purpose of Communion: 1 Corinthians 11:23-29

“For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me. In the same way, after supper he took the cup saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me. For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.”

### ❖ The communion is a time:

- To remember the Lord and his sacrifice for our sins
- To examine ourselves and the lives that we are living in response to what Jesus did on the cross for us.
- To unify us as a church whose existence and life is a response to the cross.
- Remember that the focus is on Jesus, not us and our circumstances, but how He helps us.

### Elements of the Communion Message

- i. **Introduction:** My name is John Smith(and my wife). This is the time in our service that we focus on the cross and examine our hearts and minds.....
- ii. **Passage:** “Could you turn to \_\_\_\_\_?”
  1. Read the passage (should have read a few times out loud before reading in public)
  2. Explain why you reading this passage/how relates to cross. Don’t just read and go straight to sharing.
- iii. **Sharing:** How the cross has changed your life or changed your perspective. This can be a recent event or earlier in Christian walk.
  1. Write down what you are going to say beforehand. Use a note card.
  2. Get input if you are going to share something personal that may be inappropriate to say before the church.
- iv. **Charge:** What do you want the church to take from your message/sharing.
- v. **Prayer**
  1. Bread represents Christ Body
  2. Wine represents his blood of the new covenant.

**Some reasons why Christ died for us:** *forgiveness of sins, show God’s love for us, to make us holy and blameless, to give us a clear conscience, to absorb the wrath of God, to please his heavenly Father, to learn obedience and be perfected, so that we might belong to him, to enable us to live by faith in him, to give marriage its deepest meaning, to create a people passionate for good works, to secure our resurrection from the dead, to rescue us from final judgment, to reconcile us to God, to bring us to God, to give us eternal life, to free us from the slavery of sin, to call us to follow his example, etc....*

**WATCH THE USHERS AND WAIT UNTIL THE COMMUNION TRAYS HAVE BEEN PASSED.**

### Contribution: (2 minutes)

- **Conclude Communion:** This ends our communion
- **Contribution:** Now we are going to take up our weekly contribution. This money goes to support the operational needs of the church. Contribution is our unified support of the advancement of the gospel in our local area.
- **Share a short passage and explain it.** Great to share a passage that helps you with giving.
- **Pray**

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### Closing (3-5 minutes)

#### Elements of Closing

1. **Share ONE THING** from the service that stood out for you. No need to recap the entire service. **NOTE:** The closing isn’t a time to add to the sermon or communion. The purpose is simply to restate the main point. The main point may be the title of the lesson or focus of communion.
2. **Final charge:** If you are visiting to ask the person who brought you out to study the bible with you and for the Christians to apply the scriptures to their lives.
3. **Announcements:** Where we will be meeting for Midweek and any upcoming events. Be sure to get the announcements at the pre-meeting service.
4. **Prayer**