

worshiping in the 21st century

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What does worship have to do
with anything?

a young church planter once told
me ...

it feels like worship is
the product we sell.

What does worship have to do with anything?

1. Worth-ship - Values Formation
2. Formation of Personal Desire
3. God-image Formation - the source, essence of our values
4. Social space formation
5. Formation for mission (action)

1. Worth-ship - Values Formation

What do we value?

Baptizing cultural values?

Challenging social values?

Regressive, Reflective or Progressive
values?

Worship as protest (protestifying)

“Jesus is Lord!”

2. The formation of personal desires

Prayer - organized desire

Confession - realigned desire

Celebration - reaffirmed desire

Ritual - bonding to meaning &
desire

3. God-image Formation

- the source, essence of our
values & desires

Worship as theology

Which God?

God before us or behind us?

4. Formation of social space

New norms

New skills

Alternative education

Joy among the oppressed/

Lament among the oppressors

The holy kiss ...

“communities of the future”

5. Formation for mission/action

“Organizing religion”

Weekly equipping &
deployment

1. Values Formation
2. Personal Desire Formation
3. God-image Formation
4. Social Space Formation
5. Formation for mission (action)

... One more

How can we write songs that will help
people enter new spiritual states and
grow strong in new stages?

Worship shapes
consciousness in communities
and individuals.

Through “states”
and “stages”

State: A temporary shift in consciousness

My first intense spiritual experience ...

A state of joy, belovedness, awe,
humility, gratitude

What “states” have you experienced in
worship?

With practice, temporary
states can become normative

stages ...

**a normal way of being (for a
time)**



Green: perspectival/global/pomo

Orange: objective/rational/
theoretical/universal/modern

Amber: ethnocentric/tribal

Red: egocentric/personal

Hillary - ANTI-AMBER

Green: perspectival/global

1/2 Orange: objective/rational

VS.

1/2 Orange: objective/rational

Amber: ethnocentric/tribal

Red: egocentric/personal

Trump - ANTI-GREEN

With practice, temporary **states**
can become normative **stages** ...
rendering us susceptible to new
states, etc.

The emergence of a new state/
stage - **turquoise**:
nondual, integral, transcend and
include, both/and, growth-oriented



Turquoise: integral/nondual

Green: perspectival/global

Orange: objective/rational

Amber: ethnocentric/tribal

Red: egocentric/personal



Turquoise: Jesus

Green: Prophets/ Jonah

Orange: Moses/ Proverbs

Amber: Abraham, Joseph

Red: Cain/ Jacob




Turquoise: Mystics, Sages, Saints

Green: Social activists

Orange: Traditionalists/Osteen

Amber: Religious Right (F2, G2)

Red: narcissists of any type



Turquoise God of Transcend/Include
Green God of Justice/Liberation
Orange God of Universal Principles
Amber God of Tribal Security
Red God of Personal Survival

???

Keep us all close

Immortal, invisible, God only wise

Oh how he loves us/Christian

soldiers

Jesus loves me

Sometimes, worship malfunctions:

1. Values De-Formation
2. Personal Desire De-Formation
3. God-image De-Formation
4. Social Space De-Formation
5. De-Formation for mission (action)
6. Entrapment in harmful states and stages of consciousness

All things bright and beautiful,

All creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful:

The Lord God made them all.

- Ms. Cecil Alexander (1848)

Each little flower that opens,/ Each little bird that sings,/ He made their glowing colors./ He made their tiny wings.

The purple headed mountains,/ The river running by,/ The sunset and the morning/ That brightens up the sky.

The cold wind in the winter,/ The pleasant summer sun,/ The ripe fruits in the garden,/ He made them every one.

The tall trees in the greenwood,/ The meadows where we play,/ The rushes by the water,/ To gather every day.

He gave us eyes to see them,/ And lips that we might tell/ How great is God Almighty,/ Who has made all things well.

All things bright and beautiful,/ All creatures great and small,/ All things wise and wonderful:/ The Lord God made them all.

The rich man in his castle,
The poor man at his gate,
He made them, high or lowly,
And ordered their estate.

*All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful:
The Lord God made them all.*

France, 1847

Placide Clappeau, a French wine merchant,
mayor of the French town Roquemaure,
writes a poem.

Adolphe Adam sets it to music.

Later the song is translated into English by John
S. Dwight –

It is said to have been the first music ever
broadcast over radio.

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.

A thrill of hope, the weary soul rejoices,
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees, O hear the angel voices!
O night divine, O night when Christ was born!
O night, O holy night, O night divine!

Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His Gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break for the slave is our brother
And in His Name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us praise His holy Name!
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!

Onward, Christian soldiers, marching as to
war,

With the cross of Jesus going on before.

Christ, the royal master, leads against the
foe;

Forward into battle see his banners go!

-Sabine Baring-Gould

1. Onward, all disciples, in the path of peace,
Just as Jesus taught us, love your enemies
Walk on in the Spirit, seek God's kingdom first,
Let God's peace and justice be your hunger and your
thirst!

Onward, all disciples, in humility
Walk with God, do justice, love wholeheartedly

2. We now face our failures in remorse and tears.
We must now build plowshares from our swords and
spears, Turn from the broad highway of prejudice and
war

To follow Jesus to a place we've never been before
Onward, all disciples, in humility
Walk with God, do justice, love wholeheartedly

3. Onward then, all people, reach out open hands,
Walk together now, so each child understands
That the greatest power here or up above
Is the strength of service and the gentle might of love.
Onward, all disciples, in humility
Walk with God, do justice, love wholeheartedly

How can we write songs that will help people enter new spiritual states and grow strong in new stages?

1. Values Formation
2. Personal Desire Formation
3. God-image Formation
4. Social Space Formation
5. Formation for mission (action)
6. Emergence into new states and stages of consciousness

making contact

G9 C9 G9 C9
the i am who i am, the i am who you are

C9 D9

making contact, making contact,

G9

here and now.

the story who i am, the story who you are
making meaning, making meaning
here and now

C9 Dsus4 D D9 D
my heart, a clenched fist, slowly opens

C9 Dsus4 D D9 D G9
reaches out for contact now with you ...

artist who i am, artist who you are
making beauty, making beauty
here and now

beloved who i am, beloved who you are
making promise, making promise
here and now

my heart, a clenched fist, slowly opens,
reaches out for contact now with you .

mystery who i am, mystery who you are
making music, making music
here and now

the i am who i am, the i am who you are
making contact, making contact,
here and now.

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of consciousness

losing faith, finding faith

E

I'm losing faith in the god of borders.

C#m7

I'm finding faith in the God of bridges.

E

I'm losing faith in the god of walls.

C#m7

I'm finding faith in the God of windows.

A B G#7 C#m B A9 B

I believe, I believe, oh yeah.

I'm losing faith in the god of war.
I'm finding faith in the God of peace.
I'm losing faith in the god of fear.
I'm finding faith in the God of freedom.
I believe, I believe, oh yeah.

I'm losing faith in the god of earning.
I'm finding faith in the God of learning.
I'm losing faith in the god of division.
I'm finding faith in the God of vision.
I believe, I believe, oh yeah.

I'm losing faith in the god of the righteous.
I'm finding faith in the God of the sinners.
I'm losing faith in the god of experts.
I'm finding faith in the God of beginners.
I believe, I believe, oh yeah.

I'm losing faith in the god of plunder.
I'm finding faith in the God of wonder.
I'm losing faith in the god of "me."
I'm finding faith in the God of "we."
I believe, I believe, oh yeah.

I'm losing faith in upraised fists.

I'm finding faith in open hands.

I'm losing faith in the love of power,

I'm finding faith in the power of love.

I believe, I believe, oh yeah

I believe, I believe, oh yeah

I believe, I believe, oh yeah

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Songs are just the beginning ...

1. Values Formation
2. Personal Desire Formation
3. God-image Formation
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6. Emergence into new states and stages of consciousness

Liturgies, prayers, litanies, poetry, art, architecture, interior design ... all can contribute to the formation we need!

