

Matt 16:18 "And I also say to
you that you are Peter, and upon
this rock I will build My church;
and the gates of Hades shall not
overpower it.

Membership in the Lord's church
depends on:

**(1) faith in and (2) confession of
Jesus Christ as the Son of God**

Acts 8:35 And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. 36 And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?" 37 And Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." 38 And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch; and he baptized him.

**(3) repentance from sin and (4)
immersion for the remission of
sins**

Acts 2:38 And Peter said to them,
"Repent, and let each of you be
baptized in the name of Jesus
Christ for the forgiveness of your
sins; and you shall receive the gift
of the Holy Spirit.

We become sons of God when
we are baptized having repented
of our sins and having confessed
our faith in Jesus as the Son of
God

Gal 3:26-27 For you are all sons
of God through faith in Christ
Jesus. For all of you who were
baptized into Christ have clothed
yourselves with Christ.

We not only become sons of God
in the watery grave of baptism,
but we are added to the saved.

Acts 2:47 praising God, and
having favor with all the people.
And the Lord was adding to their
number day by day those who
were being saved.

We not only become sons of God
in the watery grave of baptism as
we are added to the saved, but we
rise to walk as new creatures.

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

**To become a part of His family
and to continue as His son or
daughter, we must worship
God.**

Rev 19:10 And I fell at his feet to
worship him. And he said to me,
"Do not do that; I am a fellow
servant of yours and your
brethren who hold the testimony
of Jesus; worship God. For the
testimony of Jesus is the spirit of
prophecy."

Two questions arise:

1) What is worship?

2) How are we to worship God?

Matt 4:9 and he said to Him, "All these things will I give You, if You fall down and worship me."

10 Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! For it is written, 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"

Worshiping means that we will
serve the one worshiped.

Concerning our worship –

*Therefore, I urge you, brothers,
in view of God's mercy, to offer
your bodies as living sacrifices,
holy and pleasing to God - this is
your spiritual act of worship.*

(Rom 12:1 NIV)

your spiritual service of worship.

(NAS)

your spiritual act of worship.

(NIV)

(which is) your spiritual service

(ASV)

Worship in Rom 12:1 comes from the Greek *latreuo* which means 1) service rendered for hire; any service or ministration: the service of God 2) the service and worship of God according to the requirements of the Levitical law 3) to perform sacred services.

How is this word *latreuo* (*divine service*) used elsewhere in the New Testament?

Heb 9:1 Now even the first covenant had regulations of divine worship and the earthly sanctuary.
... 6 Now when these things have been thus prepared, the priests are continually entering the outer tabernacle, performing the divine worship,

The divine worship (service)
consisted of the things done in
the temple.

Heb 9:9 which is a symbol for the present time. Accordingly both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make the worshiper perfect in conscience, 10 since they relate only to food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until a time of reformation.

Our corresponding worship in the
New Testament is not limited to
things done in the assembly.

God's tabernacle today is not the
church building.

It is not just the assembly itself.

God's tabernacle is the heart of
those who love and obey Him!

1 Cor 3:9 For we are God's
fellow workers; you are God's
field, God's building .

Rev 21:2 And I saw the holy city,
new Jerusalem, coming down out of
heaven from God, made ready as a
bride adorned for her husband. 3
And I heard a loud voice from the
throne, saying, "Behold, the
tabernacle of God is among men,
and He shall dwell among them, and
they shall be His people, and God
Himself shall be among them,

1 Cor 3:16

Do you not know that you are a
temple of God, and that the Spirit
of God dwells in you?

Eph 2:20 having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner stone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; 22 in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

We are the tabernacle of God – God's building! We serve Him as we are obedient to Him and as we honor Him.

When done as an offering - *your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship* –
whatever we do in accordance with His commands is worship.

One part of our worship is to
come together as an assembly.

*1 Tim 3:15 but in case I am
delayed, {I write} so that you
may know how one ought to
conduct himself in the household
of God, which is the church of the
living God, the pillar and support
of the truth.*

Singing is carried out in the
assembly and in other worship
services.

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ
richly dwell within you, with all
wisdom teaching and
admonishing one another with
psalms and hymns and spiritual
songs, singing with thankfulness
in your hearts to God.

Praying is carried out in the
assembly and in other worship
services.

1 Tim 2:8 Therefore I want the
men in every place to pray, lifting
up holy hands, without wrath and
dissension. ..

Contributing for the Lord's work
is to be done in the assembly.

1 Cor 16:2 On the first day of every week let each one of you put aside and save, as he may prosper, that no collections be made when I come.

Reading the Bible and preaching
are worship when done by
Christians and are also a part of
the assembly

Acts 8:35 And Philip opened his mouth, and beginning from this Scripture he preached Jesus to him. 36 And as they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?"

None of the things mentioned above – singing, praying, contributing or preaching – is an act of worship that is confined to the assembly!

All are frequently done elsewhere both in the Scriptures and among us.

The reason Christians assembled was specifically for the observance of the Lord's Supper as a memorial and proclamation (1Co 11:20). The Corinthians were not coming together for the right purpose as

*Therefore when you meet
together, it is not to eat the
Lord's Supper (1 Cor 11:20) It
should have been but it wasn't!*

They had gathered for a
proclamation but they had
perverted it into a common meal.

The assembly is not “the worship hour” but it is one time when Christians worship!

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Our worship –

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Every hour!

Every day!

Worship God!