

**First Church of God
October 21, 2012
Sermon Notes**

Pastor Robert White

**"Giving God First Place
(In Your Worship Attendance)"
Exodus 20: 8-10**

Introduction

The English word "worship" was originally translated "worthship." We worship that which is "worthy". Only God is "worthy" of our worship. "Jesus said...It is written, you shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only." —Matthew 4:10b

"The entire message of the Gospels is related to this attitude. I think the emphasis can be condensed into a single phrase: **What we worship determines what we become.** If we worship material possessions, we tend to grow more materialistic. If we worship self, we become more selfish still. That is why Christ continually endeavored to direct men's worship."
—Harvey F. Ammerman

Who and what are you really devoted to?

Exodus 20:8-10

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God.

On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates."

I. Two voices of worship.

1. The voice of **scripture**.
2. The voice of the **church**.

What is the Sabbath Day?

It comes from the Hebrew word "shabbot" which means **"rest"**.

Deuteronomy 5:15 NIV— "and remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day."

Genesis 2:2-3 — "God rested from all His work."

Why did God establish the Sabbath Day?

Mark 2:27 NIV— "Then he said to them, 'The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.' "

RX...

God's **prescription** for people under **pressure** is in fact, taking a Sabbath.

Most middle class Americans tend to worship their work; work at their play and play at their worship.
—Anonymous

When should we celebrate the Sabbath?

Point: **One** day in seven is Holy to the Lord!

II. Ways we violate the Sabbath Day.

1. Making it a catch-**up** catch-**all** day.
2. Making **purchases** that are unnecessary.
3. Letting **television / sports** take us away from God's House.
4. Using it as a **"get-away"** day instead of worshipping God.
5. Secular **amusement**.

III. What should we do on the Sabbath Day?

1. Use the Sabbath to **Relax**.

Psalm 127:2, "It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows; for so He gives His beloved sleep."

2. Use the Sabbath to spend time with your **family**.

Psalm 46:10, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"

Use the Sabbath to **worship** your priorities.

3. Use the Sabbath to refocus **worship** God.
Psalm 122:1, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go into the house of the LORD.' "

CONCLUSION: worship is, in part, listening to what God might say to us, through music, through words, through fellowship. It is also our response to what He speaks. Worship has occurred when life responds with an openness to how God could change our lives.

Someone once said:
"Those who are wise consider how God responds to their worship."