

Redeemer Bible Church Conference for Pastors Pre-Conference Worship Leaders' Sessions

“Worship as a Ministry of the Word”

The Redeemer Bible Church Conference for Pastors is proud to offer two pre-conference sessions in the area of Worship. We view public worship as a ministry of the Word and desire that anyone involved in worship planning or leading think carefully about how God's Word can and should drive our worship. We pray that you will consider taking your worship pastor or worship leader to these sessions.

Our teacher is Redeemer's Director of Worship Ministries, David Ward. In addition to his local church responsibilities in the area of pastoral care and worship planning and leading, he is passionate about writing contemporary arrangements of rich and historic hymns. His songs, published through the Internet ministry Reformed Praise, are sung around the world by a wide variety of churches. David served as a worship leader in New Jersey for six years and attended The Southern Baptist Seminary in Louisville, KY before coming to Redeemer in 2005.

Monday, May 5, 2008

Session I
2:30-3:30 p.m.

Word-Driven Worship

We praise God for the resurgence of in-depth expository preaching that has been taking place over the past few decades. God's Word must stand at the center of our public worship as it is the only sure way to know and enjoy Him. But what relationship does God's Word have to the non-sermon portion of our worship services? What would our services look like if we gave worship planning the care and attention that we give to our sermons? How can we choose songs that will drive home the truths of God's Word and engender a proper response? This session will present the Biblical principle of worship as revelation and response and offer practical suggestions for how to ensure that our public worship is Word-driven both in the area of worship songs and the reading of Scripture.

Session II
3:45-4:45 p.m.

Engaging with the Word in Worship

We live in a musically saturated culture. From ipods to elevator music to commercials, we are constantly bombarded with music intended to influence and direct us. In order to function in this sea of over-stimulation most of us have learned to "tune out" much of this music and its message. Unfortunately this habit is easily carried into public worship. How often have you found yourself singing a song about the Lord but thinking completely separate thoughts about your own affairs simultaneously? How easy it is to become distracted and disconnected from the precious truths we are singing! This session will discuss ways that worship leaders can help the congregation engage with song lyrics and Scripture readings to help them stay tuned in to what God is saying and doing in public worship.