**Excellence in Worship**

*“Worship Leadership Conversations” Series*

*What do they think?*

What do people usually mean when they say, “That was an excellent service”?

*What does God think?*

Read Exodus 31:1-11.

1. Skills matter to God (v. 5).
2. Details matter to God (v. 11).

Read 1 Chronicles 25:1, 6-8

1. The musicians were chosen because of their skills (v. 1, 7).
2. Skills matter for ministry in the house of God (v. 6).

Read Malachi 1:11-13

1. God loves our best offerings.
2. He despises anything less.

*What do we think?*

* How important is excellence in helping people worship?
* Can corporate worship still happen if everything isn’t excellent? Why or why not?
* In what areas and ways should our services be excellent each week? Why?

The following are possible benchmarks to show whether we are being excellent. Rank them in order, with 1 being the most important and 8 being the least important:

\_\_\_ Flawless execution \_\_\_ Changed lives

\_\_\_ Our team’s best \_\_\_ Our personal best

\_\_\_ Pure hearts & good intentions \_\_\_ Great talent

\_\_\_ Minimal distractions \_\_\_ Attention to details

*What does our pastor think?*

* Our services should engage the most people in the deepest sense of worship.
* Effectiveness should be our ultimate goal, not excellence; however, excellence is important in order for us to be more effective.
* We must raise the bar of excellence in our services in every detail.
* Sunday services are the most critical thing we do as a church.

When it comes to excellence in our services, there are only two perspectives that ultimately matter: God’s and our lead pastor’s. In between those two are our own ideas and beliefs about how important excellence is and how we as leaders should show it.

*What should we* do*?*

*“When someone has been given much, much will be required in return.” –Luke 12:48b NLT*

 *“Excellence is the process of becoming better than I once was.” –Harold Best*

* Identify some things we can do better or differently as a team to be more excellent?
* Identify some things *you* can do better or differently to be more excellent?
* Trust God’s grace to cover our inevitable mistakes and inadequacies!

Written by Dwayne Moore © 2016 Next Level Worship

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