# Future Church 2. A more worshipful people 1 Tim 2

# 1 Timothy

## Paul writing to Timothy about leadership of the local church in Ephesus

### In Chapter 1 The priority was on a community of loving people

### In Chapter 2 the focus changes to worship

## The church in the future will not be the same!

# God wants us to become a more worshipful community

## Worship is expressing what God is worth to us in all aspects of our lives

### Including our use of time and our lifestyle choices

# Prayer as worship

## God wants us to pray over the world as He sees it

### With this in mind: God wants everyone to be saved (4)

#### Making requests for specific needs

#### Bringing them into view before God

#### Appealing boldly on their behalf

#### Thankfulness for them

## Our prayers matter

### Our prayers change things

# Lifestyle as worship

### God wants us to show our faith through our actions

## Men

### Pray everywhere lifting up holy hands without anger or disputing

## Women

### By your attitude, values, what you wear, what you do

# Women in the church

## Some have used these verses to make women second-class Christians

### The Bible teaches that men and women together carry the image of God and that there is neither male nor female in Christ

## Others have tried to ignore these verses

### Is it fundamental or cultural?

## Each has to stand before God and give an account

# Leadership seeks to build

## A community that loves

## A community that worships God together

### Not in uniformity but in the God-given diversity of creation

### Not according to local customs but counter-culturally and reflecting the image of God in us

# Homegroup/Private Study Questions

# Worship

## How would you define worship?

### What does it look like?

### How does it feel?

## How do non-church people define worship?

### What do Christians have in common with those who worship heroes/athletes/activities/sports/music idols?

## How does worship of Christ differ from worshipping footballers, singers, athletes, etc?

### If someone does worship have a hero/idol how can we engage with them on a spiritual level?

# Prayer as worship

## When discussing the Ephesian church and its leadership Paul says ‘Do this first of all… pray’ (2:1)

### Why should we pray for others?

#### What does it do for them?

#### What does it do for us?

### What outcomes does Paul want from their prayers for secular leaders? (2)

### What should we pray for others?

## Why do you think such praying ‘pleases God our Saviour’?

# Lifestyle as worship

## ‘To understand this section on women and men we need to look at what was going on in Ephesus and in the world at that time’

### How far do you agree with this statement?

### Paul gives specific instructions to men and women in this section – are they still valid in our culture or should all instructions be androgynous?

## Does this section tell us that Christian women should reject fashion, and give up jewellery and styling their hair?

### If not, what is it saying about where women find their value?

## Why do you think good deeds are an important adornment for women?

### What about the men?

## What do you think Paul was saying when he said ‘women will be saved through child-bearing’?