

Corporate Worship

WHEREAS we live in a time of confusing winds of doctrine in which even fundamental and evangelical Christianity is changing; and

WHEREAS the Scriptures warn of these days when the ingredients of Biblical Christianity would be altered by various worldly substitutes (2 Timothy 3:4); and

WHEREAS there is increased pressure upon fundamental, Bible-believing pastors and churches to integrate man-centered philosophy and pragmatic methodology into corporate worship, catering to felt needs and emphasizing people's comfort rather than divine presence, leading to a consumer mentality in churches and creating an atmosphere of entertainment;

While recognizing the diversity and autonomy of individual churches, we encourage careful study of these issues with spiritual discernment in order to avoid the errors of entertainment, emotionalism, experientialism, and irreverence in corporate worship;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that we, the messengers of the churches in fellowship with the GARBC, meeting for our 72nd Annual Conference in Riverside, California, June 23–27, 2003 strive to promote a Biblical model of worship that is:

God focused	(not man-pleasing)
Christ centered	(not experience-oriented)
Holy Spirit empowered	(not emotionally driven)

THAT WE FURTHER REAFFIRM our commitment to substantive worship that is "in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24) and centered on the expositional preaching of the Word of God (2 Timothy 4:2; 2 Corinthians 4:2) which is the Spirit's Word of grace to build up local churches (Acts 20:32).

*Riverside, California
June 23–27, 2003*