

Worship

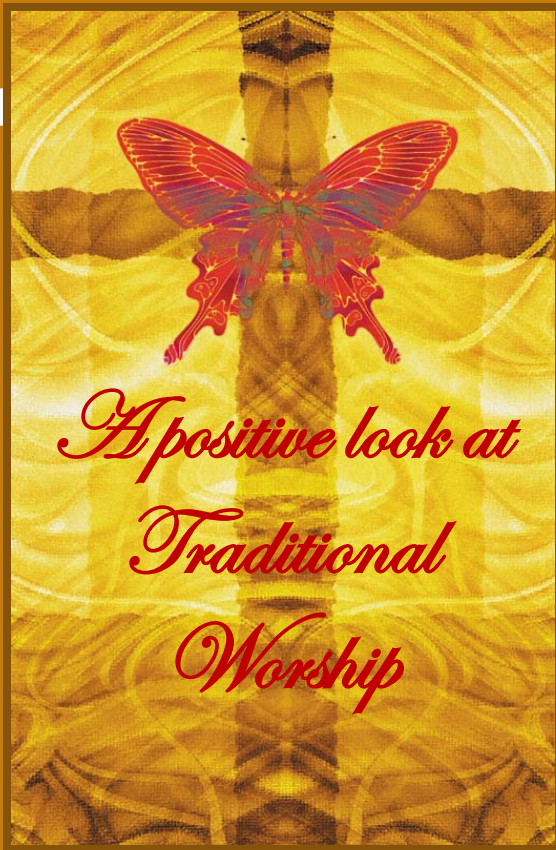
Ways

*So in Christ, we,
though many, form one
body, and each member
belongs to all the others.*

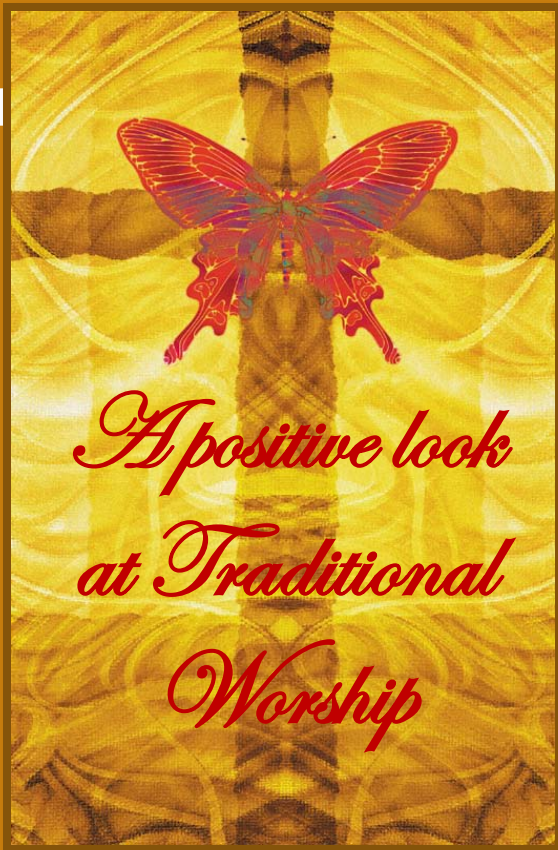
Romans 12: 5

God's Kids

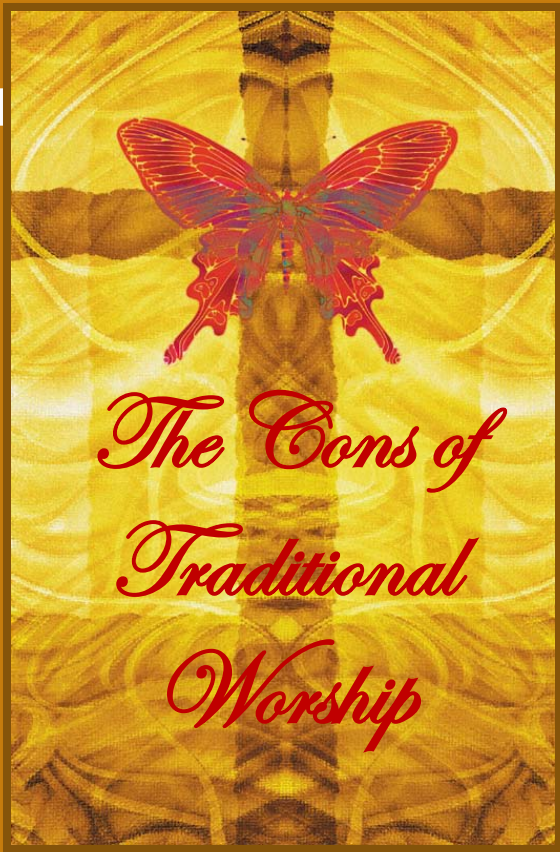
*Jamal Booker, Linda Burton, Bruce
Clevenger, Ken Powers, Lori Scifers, Jacque
Smith, Al Stocks*



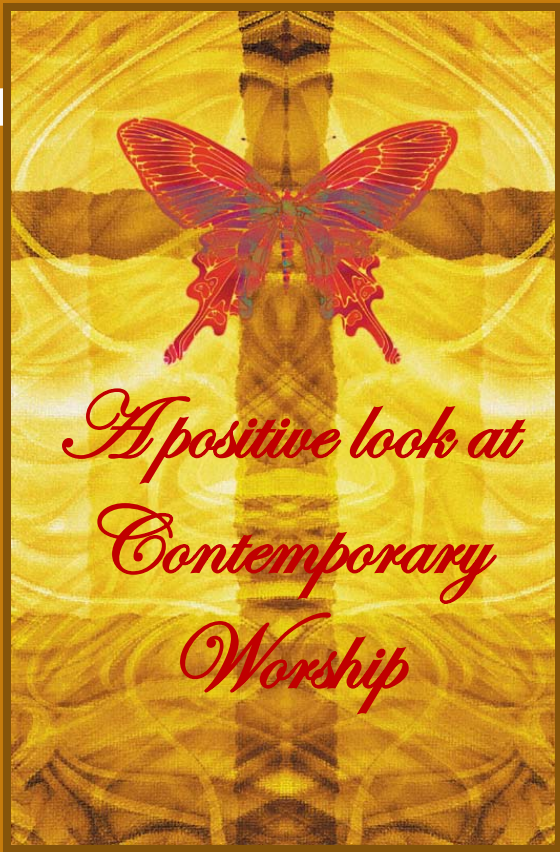
- We want to sing the "old" hymns
- We want our hymnal and a Bible handy
- We want to follow the traditions set down in administration of sacraments
- We expect a pointed sermon
- We want to have a bulletin in our hands to follow the order of service



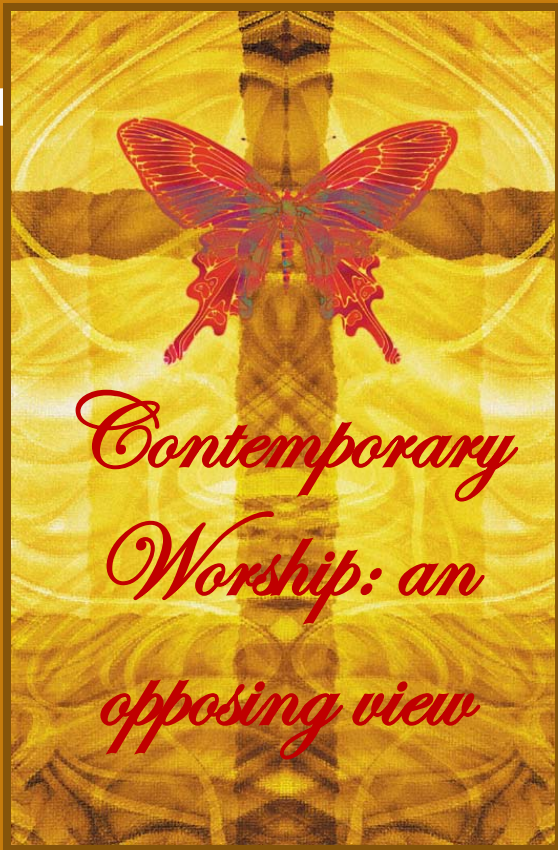
- We want to sing the Doxology as part of the offering
- We want to participate in affirmations of faith, including the Apostles Creed
- We expect to pray The Lord's Prayer as a congregation
- We want to hear scripture read in a serious and solemn way



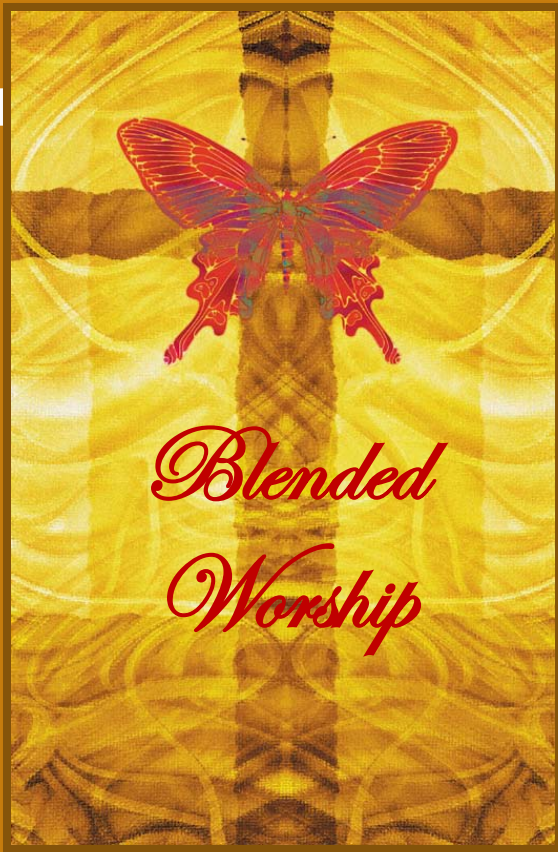
- Uninviting
- Confining
- Making God of no effect by Tradition
- Zeal for tradition resists the Holy Spirit



- Connects current culture to Christ
- Connects modern and post-modern communities to God.

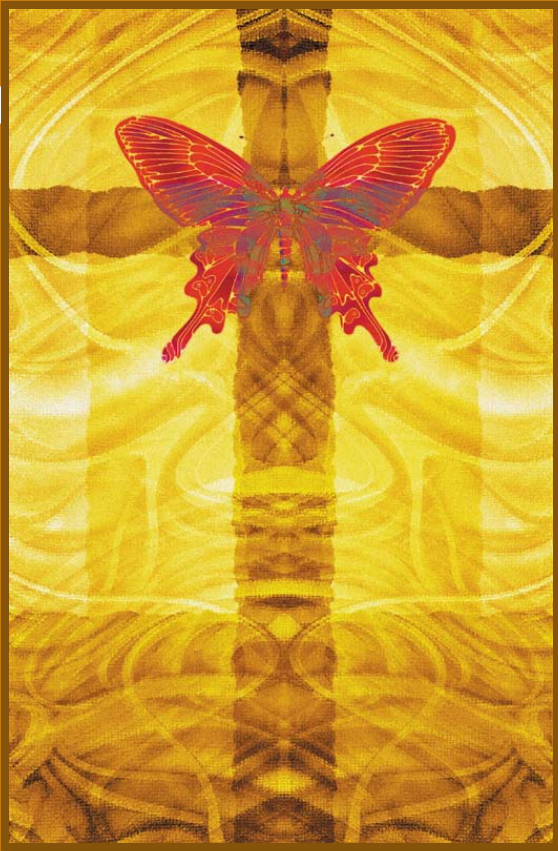


- Music plays an important part of the Contemporary worship service
- Diminished usage of creeds and formal prayers
- Content of contemporary music
- The Entertainment factor
- What about tradition?



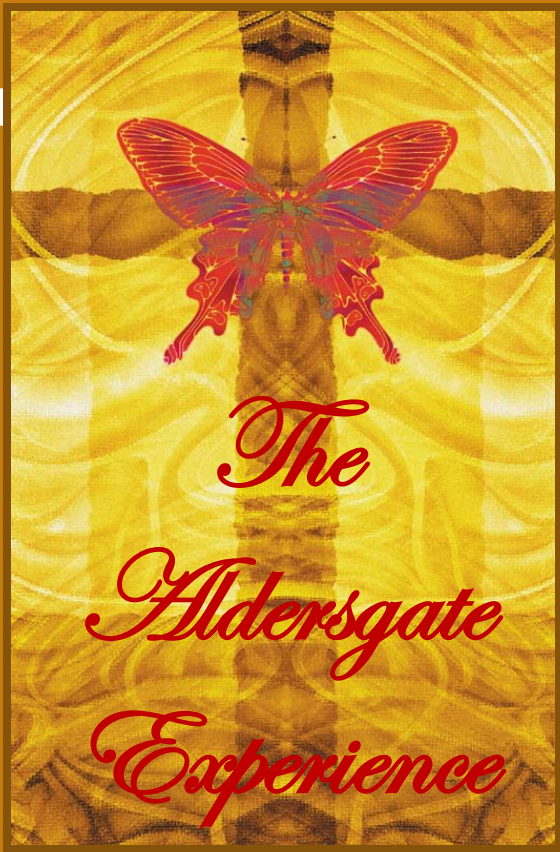
Blended worship – perceived factors contributing to the concept

- Music used
- Formality of dress
- Overall tone of service
- Use of technology – audio visual

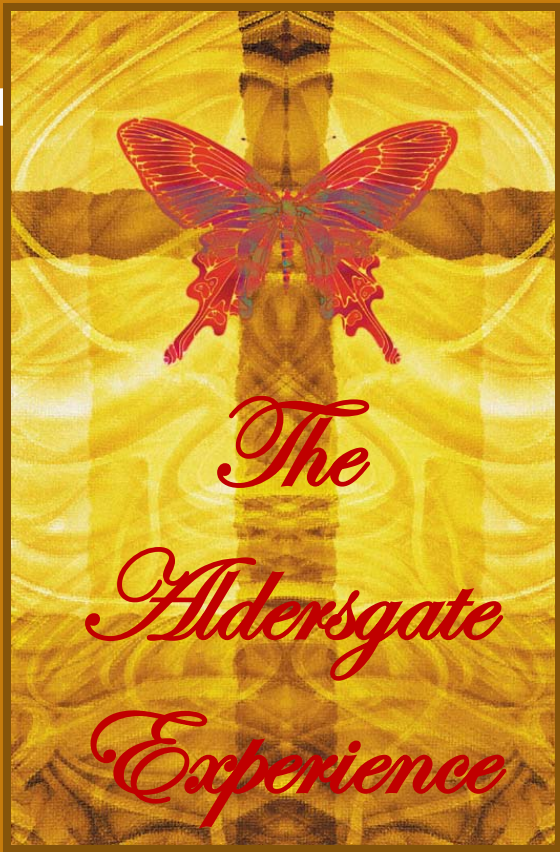


Contemporary Worship in a
Traditional Church

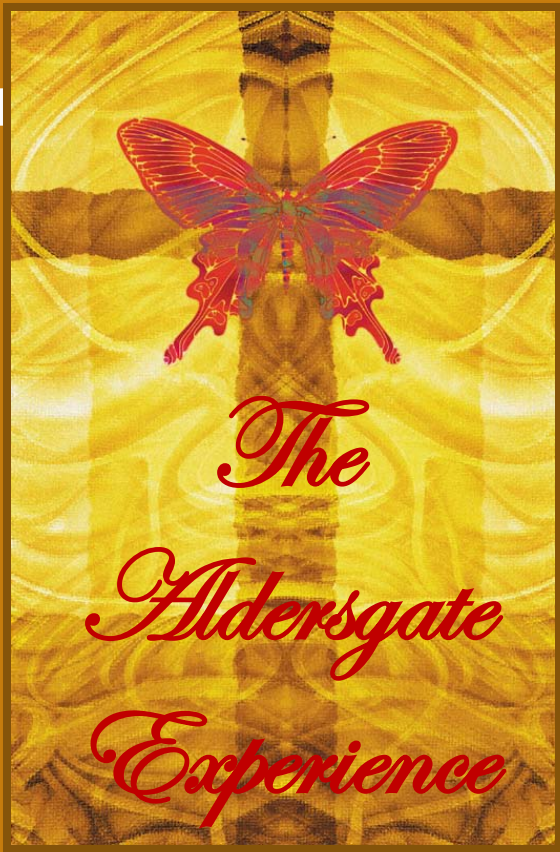
The Aldersgate
Experience



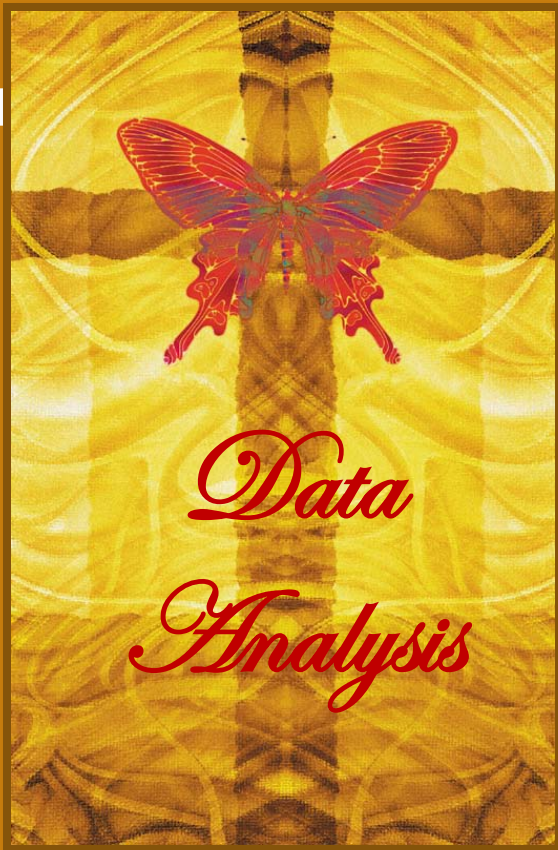
1. Many in today's society from age 45-50 and younger have little loyalty to churches or other institutions.
2. Loyalties in today's society are more relational in nature, i.e., to individuals or to groups with whom there is a perceived close relationship.
3. Many in today's society have grown up without significant background understanding or appreciation of Christian tradition.



4. Attempting to add another form of worship in a church with established tradition can be difficult and is often divisive. The new worship essentially establishes a "church within a church," with the new group often having different ideas of forms of worship, mission, practice and even theology.
5. Many in today's society have difficulty making and honoring commitments.

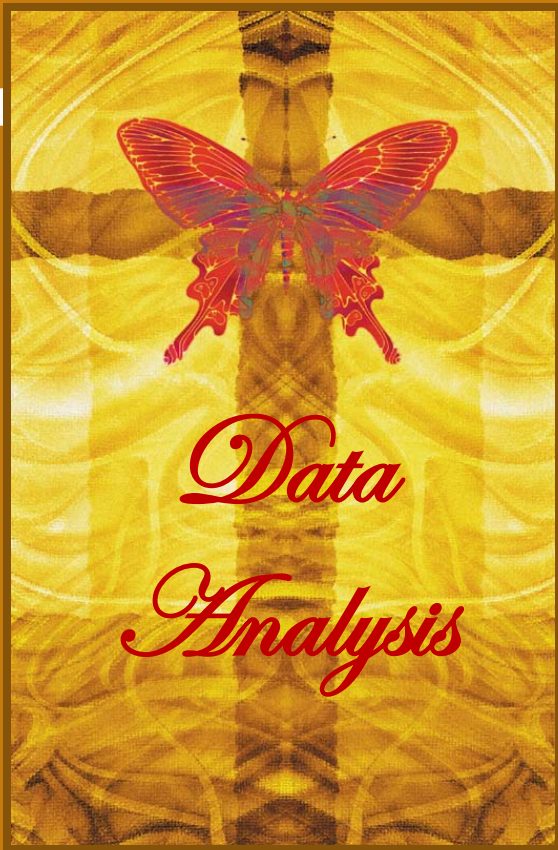


6. In today's consumer driven society there is an expectation of an entitlement to be fed, with little sense of obligation to get in the kitchen and help prepare the meal.
7. Different forms of worship appeal to different groups of people, but regardless of form, all worship must be of the highest possible quality as our gift to God and our effort to feed his flock.



Survey of N. Ga. Methodists

- Strongest agreement (9.2 on scale of 10)
 - “If your heart is in the right place, it really doesn’t matter how you worship, only THAT you worship.”
- Next strongest agreement (8.8 on scale of 10)
 - “It makes no difference to God whether services are traditional or contemporary.”
- Respondent comment
 - “For me, the real question is not about the style of worship but how to make sure churches are vitalized to have authentic worship, regardless of style.”

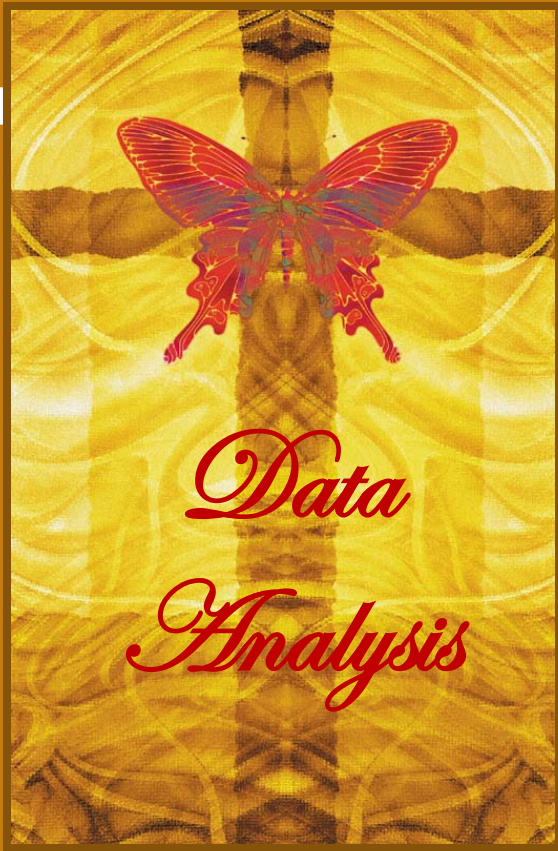


Designing Authentic Worship

Free access to MissionInsite,
custom reports

- QuickInsite: 2-page overview
- FullInsite: 18 pages of demographic details
- ExecutiveInsite: 15 pages, 12 topics, including charitable giving practices and religious practices
- Impressions: 2 pages, 10 indicators of community moods and values, 10 indicators of community inclinations

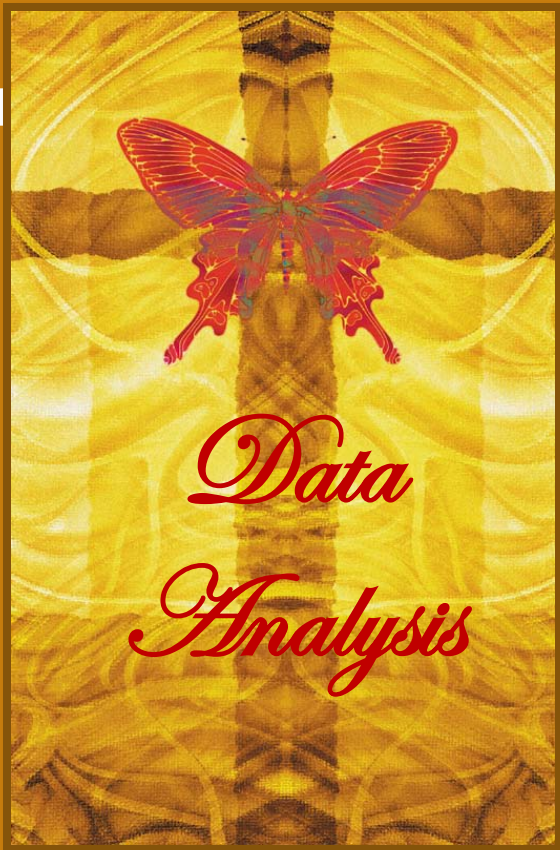
<http://ngumc.org/pages/detail/494>



Designing Authentic Worship

Additional MissionInsite resources

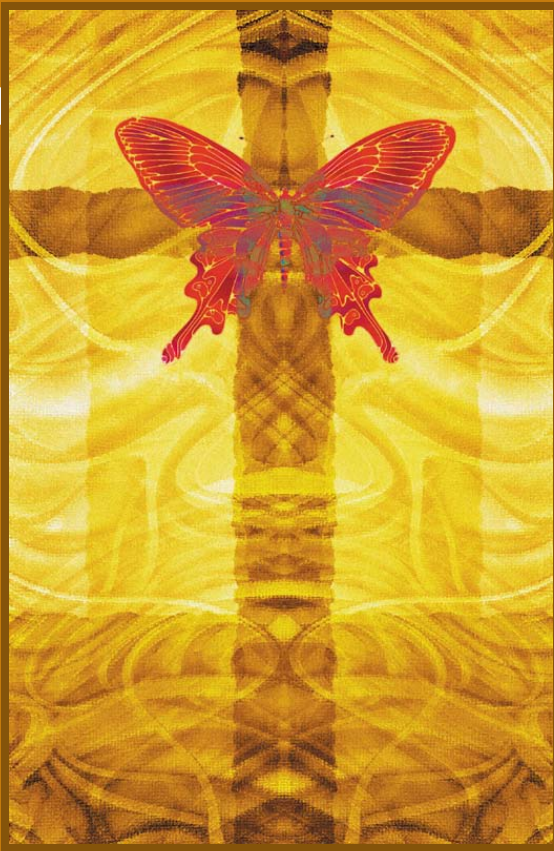
- Mosaic Type Descriptions: 17 pages of detail for each of 60 lifestyles
- Mission Impact: 3 pages of practical ministry applications for each of 60 lifestyles in 6 areas
 - Leadership
 - Hospitality
 - Worship
 - Education
 - Small Groups
 - Outreach



Designing Authentic Worship

Worship alternatives guided by
“nature of blessing” rather than
“style of worship”

- Educational
- Transformational
- Inspirational
- Coaching
- Healing/Care Giving
- Mission-Connection



Conclusion

- Worship Wars?
- No right or wrong style

John 4:23-24 (New International Version, ©2011)

²³ Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. ²⁴ God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”