

## **PREPARING FOR WORSHIP by *Thom Rainer***

**This weekend I will attend my church's worship service. I will prepare for that corporate worship event; I will not take the moments lightly. I will see it as a precious time to gather with brothers and sisters in Christ.**

**I will prepare for worship. I will ask God to prepare my own heart. I will ask Him to help me hear God's Word clearly. I will ask Him to speak to me that I might be changed.**

**I will prepare for worship. I pray that I will not be distracted by my own preferences: by the style of music; the length of the sermon; the place where I sit; or anything that would cause me to focus on me instead of God.**

**I will prepare for worship. I will pray for my pastor that the sermon will be anointed. I will pray for strength for my pastor and for encouragement in a world that often offers little.**

**I will prepare for worship. I will pray for other leaders in the church, leaders often unnoticed and unappreciated, and specifically for those who sacrificially care for our children in the services.**

**I will prepare for worship. I will pray that I will hear God's voice in the music, in the prayers, and in every moment that we gather as a body of believers, united in heart, focus, and purpose.**

**I will prepare for worship. I will pray with my family before we leave to go to the church service. I will also pray alone for the services before we leave, even if it's only for a few minutes.**

**I will prepare for worship. As I see fellow believers enter to worship together, I will pray for them and their families, and I will pray for their own hearts of worship.**

**I will prepare for worship. I understand I am blessed to be able to gather, because I know that many Christians around the world are being persecuted and banned from such times.**

**I will prepare for worship. I pray I will understand that it is a foretaste of heaven, and that I will never take such times for granted. I pray I will truly rejoice in the house of the Lord.**

**I will prepare for worship. Thank You, God, for your grace. Thank you, God, for Your goodness and for allowing me these precious moments to gather to worship You.**

**"I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD."— Psalm 122:1**