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## **The Worship Architect: A Blueprint for Designing Culturally Relevant and Biblically Faithful Services**

**Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2010**

**ISBN-10:** 080103874X

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This, by an American liberal Baptist teaching at a Wesleyan seminary, uses the architecture metaphor to explain the four 'building blocks' or 'rooms' of the Sunday service (Approach, Word etc.). It is a bold attempt to persuade those who consider structure less important than fervour, which often result in worshippers feeling something lacking in the quality of their encounter with God. The architectural metaphor is used convincingly and would be effective in helping a worship leader who believes worship should be free of such constraints to see the potential greater effect of a better structured event.

More than a text, the book is set out as a learning experience. Each main section begins with 'Explore', where the reader is enabled to draw from his/her own self something of the insights which are explored in what follows, and ends with 'Engage', where very practical and useful



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suggestions are made as to how to carry the theme of the chapter forward, together with a section 'To learn more' where further sources are listed. Indeed, the whole is full of very practical advice for the leader of worship, both in terms of the whole task and the detail. The very accessible writing is laced with well-turned phrases to drive the point home: for example, 'the measure of a worshipping heart is the active disciple'; 'there is no biblical evidence that the Holy Spirit is especially available as an antidote for inadequate worship planning'; 'there is freedom in order – freedom to place something in motion and then let God lead you as you lead others through the service'.

*Please note that the views expressed in these materials are those of the individual writer and not necessarily the official view of the Church of Scotland, which can be laid down only by the General Assembly.*



## Additional Resources

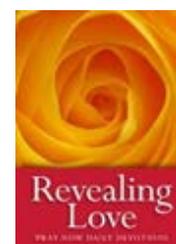
### Resourcing Mission



[Resourcing Mission](#) is host to Starters for Sunday and other key mission resources for download and purchase. Online booking is available for [Mission & Discipleship events](#). Please check back regularly, as new items are being added all the time. If there is something you'd like to see on this new site, please [contact us](#) via the website.

### Prayer Resources

These materials are designed to be a starting point for what you might look for in prayers. [Revealing Love](#) is available now from [St Andrew Press](#).



### Starters for Sunday



[Starters for Sunday](#) offer a range of suggested material which can be used each week for individuals and congregations to develop. All of the material is written by people who are experienced in leading worship regularly though not all are ordained.

### Music Resources

For some excellent articles on church music and ideas for new music resources, please check out our online music resource [Different Voices](#).



### Preaching Resources



[Preachers Perspectives](#) is a resource where we have asked twelve preachers to share the insights they have gathered through their experiences of writing and delivering sermons regularly.

