



# *Balanced Worship in Christian School*

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### ***Synopsis***

How can worship meet the varied demands of different personalities, levels of maturity and aspects of our human nature? The answer lies in a careful biblical study of “psalms, hymns and spiritual songs” in the context of Colossians and Ephesians and careful study of the Col 3:15-17 and Eph 5:15-20.

### ***Seminar Premise***

Paul’s double reference to psalms, hymns and spiritual songs in two letters that have a similar theme is not just coincidence or a passing comment on the practice of the early church. In fact, a study of the original meaning of the words and historical practice reveals a comprehensive valuable model of holistic worship.

### ***Concerns this seminar addresses***

- Lack of appreciation for the heroes of the past.
- Lack of appreciation for the great hymns of the church
- Unnecessary reinventing of the wheel
- Mistakes of the past repeated unnecessarily
- Insufficient information to understand the dynamics of what is happening in church
- Imbalance in worship
- Impoverished resources in worship and teaching

### ***What will this seminar do for those you attend?***

- Help to explain personal feelings
- Help to understand change
- Help to understand the varied reactions of students
- Help to understand and explain tensions in ministry
- Provide a diagnostic tool for dealing with problems
- Help you to explain the dynamics of what is happening in your school
- Provide a vocabulary and word pictures to facilitate the sharing of solutions

## **BASIC OUTLINE (adapted for allotted time and situation)**

1. Relevant message of Colossians and Ephesians
2. Context of "Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs"
3. Meaning of original Greek words  
What rich textual meanings were obvious to Paul's readers when he used the three terms "psalms, hymns and spiritual songs?"
4. Psalms, Hymns and Spiritual Songs in the early church  
What practices were obvious to Paul's readers when he used the three terms "psalms, hymns and spiritual songs?"
5. Three fold connections  
Trinity, three-fold description of man, different personalities, levels of maturity
6. Holistic Worship
7. Moving to Personal and Congregational Maturity
8. Effecting Change