

An American flag waves on a tall pole in the foreground on the left. The background features a scenic landscape at sunset, with a river winding through a valley, rolling hills, and a sky filled with golden clouds. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm glow.

Welcome to Worship

Sanford church of Christ

— CELEBRATING —
250TH
INDEPENDENCE DAY
— of —
AMERICA
1776 ★ 2026

ONE NATION ★ UNDER GOD ★ INDIVISIBLE ★ WITH LIBERTY ★ AND JUSTICE FOR ALL

THE CHURCH THAT ASKS FOR NOTHING.

✓ They leave me alone.

✓ I already have all
the friends I need.

✓ No one asks me
to do anything.

✓ I can just attend
and leave.

WELCOME
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

A CHURCH
THAT LETS YOU
BE YOU.

- ✓ NO PRESSURE
- ✓ NO EXPECTATIONS
- ✓ JUST COME AS YOU ARE

NEW
SERIES

WHAT GOD DO YOU SERVE, THE LORD OR SELF?

SELF

COMFORT
PRIDE
PLEASURE
SUCCESS
CONTROL

THE LORD

LOVE
OBEDIENCE
SACRIFICE
SERVICE
SURRENDER



*46 “Why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord,’
and not do what I tell you?”*

Luke 6:46 (ESV)

It is a
question of
authority.



EVERY
KINGDOM
HAS A
KING



18 And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Matthew 28:18 (ESV)

R_x

Prescription

RX 1234567-89012

TAKE ONE TABLET BY
MOUTH EVERY 8 HOURS
AS NEEDED FOR PAIN

QTY: 30

NO REFILLS - DR. AUTHORIZATION REQUIRED



7 Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed. 8 For I too am a man set under authority, with soldiers under me: and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 9 When Jesus heard these things, he marveled at him, and turning to the crowd that followed him, said, "I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith." 10 And when those who had been sent returned to the house, they found the servant well.

Luke 7:7 – 10 (ESV)

8 putting everything in subjection under his feet.” Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. 9 But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:8 – 9 (ESV)

WHERE DOES — ALL OF THE — RELIGIOUS CONFUSION COME FROM?



48 The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. 49 For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. 50 And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

John 12:48 – 50 (ESV)

15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.

2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV)

IS RELIGION IMPORTANT?



WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

Man's opinions don't define truth.



WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH?

True religion is found in God's Word.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?

It's more than belief—it's obedience.



23 But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. 24 God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

John 4:23 – 24 (ESV)

WHO IS ON THE THRONE OF YOUR LIFE— JESUS OR YOURSELF?

- ✓ TRUTH
- ✓ LOVE
- ✓ PURPOSE
- ✓ PEACE
- ✓ ETERNAL LIFE

- ✗ SELF
- ✗ PRIDE
- ✗ COMFORT
- ✗ PLEASURE
- ✗ TEMPORARY

SELF MAKES A TERRIBLE GOD



SERVING
GOD
ALWAYS
COSTS
SOMETHING



- ⌚ TIME
- 🛋️ COMFORT
- 🧠 PRIDE
- 📺 WORLDLY PLEASURES
- ❤️ SELF

1 CHRONICLES 21

Then Satan stood up against Israel and incited David to number Israel. So David said to Joab and the leaders of the people, “Go, number Israel from Beersheba to Dan, and bring me word, that I may know the number of the people.”

1 Chronicles 21:1 (ESV)

A TRAGIC CHOICE



David numbered the people of Israel, trusting in numbers rather than in God.

GOD'S RESPONSE



God gave David a choice of judgment: three years of famine, three months of defeat before his enemies, or three days of pestilence in the land.

DAVID'S REPENTANCE



David confessed, “I am in great distress. Let us fall into the hand of the LORD, for his mercy is great.”
(1 Chronicles 21:13)

THE THRESHING FLOOR



The angel of the LORD destroyed 70,000 men. David built an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Araunah.
(1 Chronicles 21:14–30)

PRIDE COUNTS. HUMILITY TRUSTS. MERCY RESTORES.

24 But King David said to Ornan, “No, but I will buy them for the full price. I will not take for the LORD what is yours, nor offer burnt offerings that cost me nothing.”

1 Chronicles 21:24 (ESV)

WILL YOU
SUBMIT
TO HIS
AUTHORITY?