

People who have grown up in the church, in Christendom, need help in realizing the urgency that faces the church today. Our culture has passed us by. We no longer speak the same language it does. Christian concepts and terminology are not understood by a majority of people in America today. The Christian movement frequently has been the object of skepticism and disdain. This is a tremendously challenging environment in which to try to share the best news humanity has ever received. The burning question for us is, "How can we present the gospel in a way that persuasively communicates its truth to our world?" If we were to apply the lessons from our missionaries about language, technology, and culture to worship, how would an alternative worship experience differ from traditional worship? The following chart, developed by Bill Easum, shows the differences between three distinctively different approaches to worship: Traditional (appeals to GIs and Silent generations), Praise (appeals to Boomers), and Sensory (appeals to Gen Xers and Millennials). The differences are portrayed in the following chart.

Traditional Worship	Praise Worship	Sensory Worship
Rational	Emotional	Real
Information	Celebration	Personal Transformation
Knowledge	Discernment	Spiritual Growth
Adult Orientation	Children's Sermon	Adult Orientation
Quiet	Semi-Loud	Extra Loud
Stately	Casual	More Casual
Print	Screen	Computer
Liturgy	Less Liturgy	Food Liturgy
Creeds	Interviews	Testimonies
Organs	Synthesizers	Guitars/Variety
Hymns	Choruses	Secular Songs
Choirs	Ensembles	Bands
Explanation of Mission	Motivation for Mission	All About Mission
Faith Telling	Faith Sharing	Faith Experiencing
Bible Reading	Biblical Drama	This is My Story
Oratory	Sermon Outlines	Strong Content
Directors of Music	Worship Teams	Worship Teams
Liturgists	Drama	Drama
Educational	Experiential	Experiential
Contented Souls	Yearning Persons	Aching Hearts
Offering in Worship	Personal Decision	Life Covenant

The most important thing to understand about this listing is that no one of these approaches to worship is THE right approach. Each of them is only right if it communicates the gospel effectively to the audience you are trying to reach.