

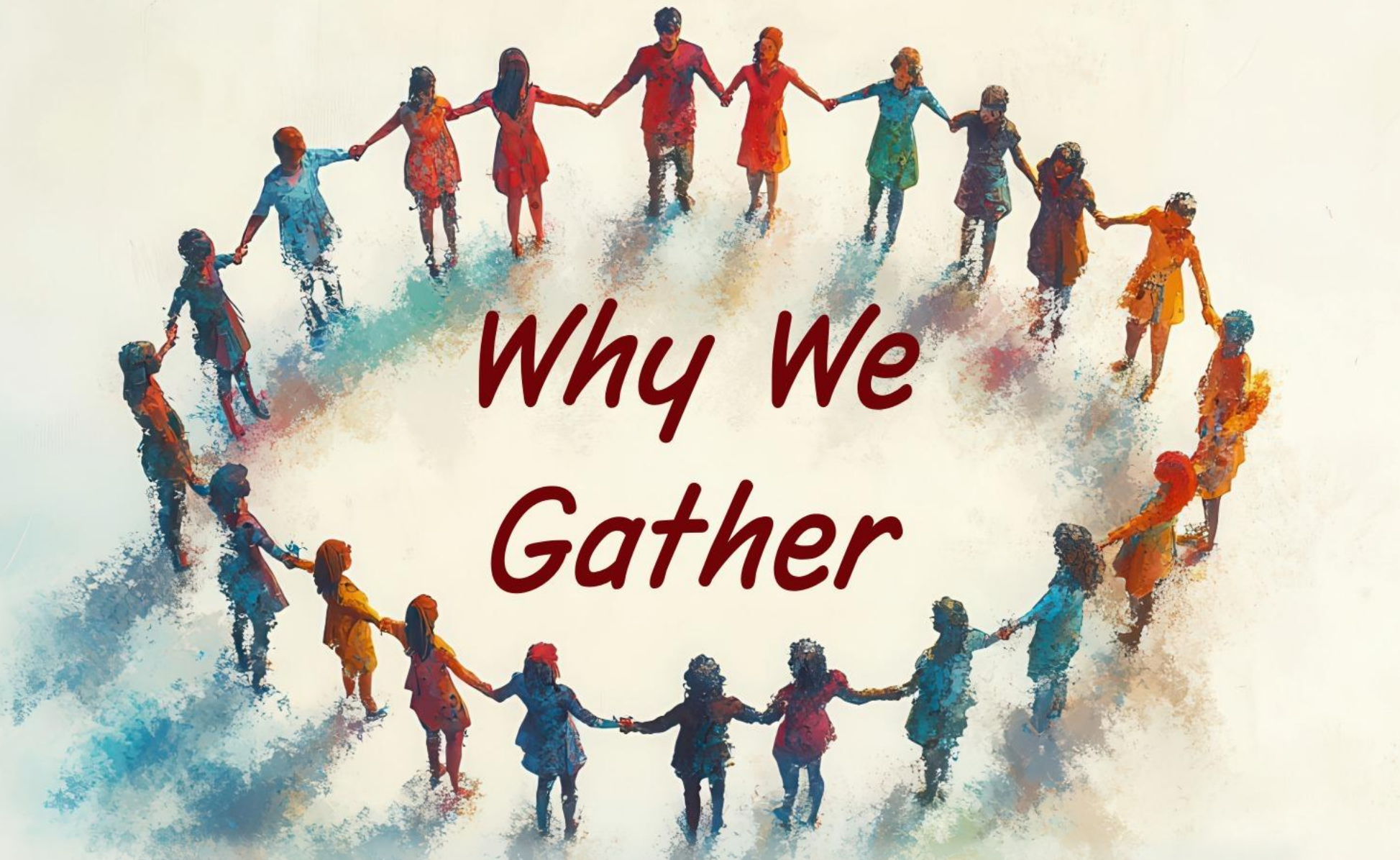
A group of approximately 20 diverse people of various ages and ethnicities are holding hands in a large circle. They are standing on a light-colored, textured surface that looks like sand or a soft ground. The people are wearing colorful clothing in shades of blue, red, orange, and green. The overall mood is joyful and communal.

# *Why We Gather*

A collection of vintage tools including a hammer, wrench, pliers, and gloves on a wooden surface.

KNOWING  
THE *WHY*  
BEHIND WHAT YOU DO



An artistic illustration of a diverse group of people of various ages and ethnicities holding hands in a large circle. The style is painterly with soft, blended colors. The people are arranged in a ring, with their hands clasped together, creating a sense of unity and community. The background is a light, textured white with subtle washes of color that complement the figures.

# *Why We Gather*

**Week 1: To Love God**

# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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- A) To enjoy the show: consumerism





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# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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- A) To enjoy the show: consumerism
- Philippians 2.3
- Do nothing out of selfish ambition





# WARNING

**Consumer mindset:**

# WARNING

## Consumer mindset:

- ✓ My worship attendance is completely optional



# WARNING

## Consumer mindset:

- ✓ My worship attendance is completely optional
  - ✓ I walk away mostly with critiques

# WARNING

## Consumer mindset:

- ✓ My worship attendance is completely optional
  - ✓ I walk away mostly with critiques
  - ✓ I'm quick to change churches

# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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- B) To fill the tank: emotionalism





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# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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- Emotions: good servants; bad masters



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- B) To fill the tank: emotionalism
- Emotions: good servants; bad masters
- Matthew 13.20-21
- <sup>20</sup> And the one sown on rocky ground—this is one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy.





# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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- B) To fill the tank: emotionalism
- Emotions: good servants; bad masters
- Matthew 13.20-21
- <sup>20</sup> And the one sown on rocky ground—this is one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy.
- <sup>21</sup> But he has no root and is short-lived. When distress or persecution comes because of the word, immediately he falls away.



# WARNING

**Emotionalist mindset:**

# WARNING

## Emotionalist mindset:

- ✓ Primarily come: “what do I get out of this?”



# WARNING

## Emotionalist mindset:

- ✓ Primarily come: “what do I get out of this?”
  - ✓ Base my experience on my feelings

# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

- C) To check the box: legalism



# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

- C) To check the box: legalism
- Legalism: doing good things to make God accept me





# 1. Why we shouldn't gather:

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- C) To check the box: legalism
- Legalism: doing good things to make God accept me
- Isaiah 29.13
- The Lord said:  
These people approach me with their speeches,  
to honor me with lip-service,  
yet their hearts are far from me,  
and human rules direct their worship of me.



# WARNING

**Legalist mindset:**

# WARNING

## Legalist mindset:

- ✓ There is *no* emotion or joy in church attendance

# WARNING

## Legalist mindset:

- ✓ There is *no* emotion or joy in church attendance
  - ✓ I regularly whine and complain



## 2. Why we should gather:

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## 2. Why we should gather:

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- A) For God Himself: love



## 2. Why we should gather:

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- A) For God Himself: love
- Something's purpose in its very name:



## 2. Why we should gather:

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- Church (Greek): *ekklesia*





## 2. Why we should gather:

- A) For God Himself: love
- Something's purpose in its very name:
- Church (Greek): *ekklesia*
  - ek: "out of; from"



## 2. Why we should gather:

- A) For God Himself: love
- Something's purpose in its very name:
- Church (Greek): *ekklesia*
  - ek: “out of; from”
  - kaleo: “to call”



## 2. Why we should gather:

- A) For God Himself: love
- Something's purpose in its very name:
- Church (Greek): *ekklesia*
  - ek: “out of; from”
  - kaleo: “to call”
  - Church: “called out to assemble”



## 2. Why we should gather:

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- A) For God Himself: love
- Isaiah 43.7
- everyone who bears (ESV: called by) my name and is created for my glory.  
I have formed them; indeed, I have made them





## 2. Why we should gather:

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## 2. Why we should gather:

- **A) For God Himself: love**
- Ephesians 3.21
- to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.



<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus—

Hebrews 10 (CSB)

<sup>19</sup> Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus—

<sup>20</sup> he has inaugurated for us a new and living way through the curtain (that is, through his flesh)—

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Hebrews 10 (CSB)

## 2. Why we should gather:

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- B) For our formation as disciples: worship



## 2. Why we should gather:

- B) For our formation as disciples: worship



## 2. Why we should gather:

- B) For our formation as disciples: worship
- Worship: “worth” + “shape”





## 2. Why we should gather:

---

- B) For our formation as disciples: worship
- Romans 12
- Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.



## 2. Why we should gather:

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### •B) For our formation as disciples: worship

#### •Romans 12

- Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship.
- <sup>2</sup> Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.



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### •More worth = more it shapes me



How we gather to worship shapes us

# How we gather to worship shapes us





# How we gather to worship shapes us



# How we gather to worship shapes us



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- A) Come Hungry



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

- A) Come Hungry





### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- A) Come Hungry



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- A) Come Hungry
- Read the sermon passage before coming to church



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- A) Come Hungry
- Read the sermon passage before coming to church
  - [peninsulagrace.org/reading-plan](http://peninsulagrace.org/reading-plan)



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- A) Come Hungry
- Read the sermon passage before coming to church
  - [peninsulagrace.org/reading-plan](http://peninsulagrace.org/reading-plan)
- Come all prayed up



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- B) Leave full





### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- B) Leave full
- Be easily edified



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- B) Leave full
- Be easily edified
  - “encouraged; built up; instructed”



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- B) Leave full
- Be easily edified
  - “encouraged; built up; instructed”
- Be a doer of the Word



### 3. How to gather: come hungry, leave full

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- B) Leave full
- Be easily edified
  - “encouraged; built up; instructed”
- Be a doer of the Word
  - James 1.22
  - But be doers of the word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.







A black and white photograph showing the lower legs and feet of a young child. The child is wearing white, open-toed sandals with decorative flower-shaped buckles. They are standing on a concrete step or ledge. The background is slightly out of focus, showing more of the step and some foliage at the bottom left.

"The hardest  
part of any  
journey is  
taking that  
first step"



"The hardest  
part of any  
journey is  
taking that  
first step"

*"We may never know the treacherous journey  
people have taken to land in the pew next to us"*

Rosaria Butterfield

C) Come through the blood of Jesus



# C) Come through the blood of Jesus

we have boldness to  
enter the sanctuary  
through the blood  
of Jesus...

Hebrews 10.19





# C) Come through the blood of Jesus

we have boldness to  
enter the sanctuary  
through the blood  
of Jesus...

Hebrews 10.19

in view of the mercies of God,  
I urge you  
to present your bodies

Romans 12.1



# C) Come through the blood of Jesus

The Gospel is the only solution to:



# C) Come through the blood of Jesus



The Gospel is the only solution to:  
our legalism

# C) Come through the blood of Jesus



The Gospel is the only solution to:  
our legalism  
our emotionalism

# C) Come through the blood of Jesus



The Gospel is the only solution to:

our legalism

our emotionalism

our consumerism







Week 1:  
To Love God

A group of approximately 20 diverse people of various ages and ethnicities are holding hands in a large circle. They are standing on a light-colored, textured surface that looks like sand or a dry lake bed. The people are wearing colorful clothing in shades of red, orange, yellow, green, and blue. The overall mood is one of unity and community.

*Why We  
Gather*

Revelation 4-5