

CORPORATE WORSHIP

The awesome blessing of The Church

WORSHIP IS...

- “Honor paid to a superior being” – MacArthur
- “Focusing on and responding to God”- Whitney
- Look at the early church Acts 2:42-47

Five Benefits of Corporate Worship

- Surely many more graces and blessings from corporate worship could be given, but here are five such blessings that we experience uniquely in the context of corporate worship.
- The first is **Awakening**. When the rough and tumble of life in a fallen world can cause us to lose focus on what is really important.
- Think of the inspired psalmist in Psalm 73 as he begins to despair over the prosperity of his wicked peers.
(vv. 2-15)

Assurance

- Our shared community dynamic meets our good desires for belonging in our shared mission, and also provides a catalyst for our assurance.
- We are not alone, we are part of a faithful community that fosters and strengthens our otherwise unpopular beliefs.
- “God made us for community--- and He named Her, The Church.” David Mathis

Advance


- Corporate Worship also plays an indispensable part in our sanctification.
- Corporate worship is for our general upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. (1 Cor. 14:3)
- “But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit. (2 Cor. 3:18)

Accepting Another's Leading

- In the assembly we are made to receive the leading of others. To trust our shepherd and the elders God has placed in our lives.
- In the assembly our Pastor's decide what Scripture to address, what to pray, what to sing, what gospel truths to preach. We are positioned to receive.
- It is a wonderful thing in personal devotions to make such choices, but it is also good for us to practice engaging with God when our leaders are going deep into His Word on our behalf.

Accentuated Joy

- In the assembly our own joy is accentuated, our adoration increased, and our joy doubled when we worship Jesus together.
- Worship in the body of Christ is a preoccupation with Jesus and His glory, a happy awareness that we are not alone in having our souls satisfied in Him.

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- You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But an hour is coming, and now is, when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.” (John 4:22-24)

It is all About Worshiping God

- The Apostle John relates his personal interaction with an Angel twice in the book of Revelation, both in chapter 19 and again in chapter 22.
- Worship is not optional. “You shall worship the Lord your God and serve Him only.” (Matt. 4:10)
- The foundation upon which true worship is based is redemption.
- “Worship, then, is the essence of the matter. The proper response, the only righteous response, to the saving death of Christ, is a heartfelt expression of true worship.” (MacArthur)

Six Lessons in Good Listening

- 1. It requires our **Attention** and **Patience** –
- 2. Good Listening is an **Act of Love** –
- 3. Good Listeners ask **Perceptive Questions** –
- 4. Good listening is **Ministry** –
- 5. It prepares us to **Speak well** -
- 6. It reflects **Our Relationship with God** -