

## Reflecting on the Purpose of the Church

### April 22, 2018

**Introduction:** Today we looked at several passages to discuss the purposes of the church:

1. The purpose of the church is worship. *This is our Upward Focus.*  
(John 4:20-24, Rom. 12:1-2; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-24)
2. The purpose of the church is evangelism *This is our Outward Focus.*  
(Mat. 28:19, Acts 1:8)
3. The purpose of the church is edification. *This is our Inward Focus*  
(Eph. 4:11-13; 1 Thes. 5:11, 1 Cor. 14:26; 1 Pet. 4:8-11).

#### **General Questions:**

1. Which purpose of the church hit home most significantly with you? Why?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. What does God want you to change about the way you live your life this week as a result of what we learned from these purposes of the church?

#### **Specific Questions:**

3. In the message, pastor shared the following definition of corporate worship: *Corporate worship is when the local body of Christ meets together to proclaim the goodness and greatness of God and to surrender our lives to Him out of thanksgiving for all He has done.*

What do you like about this definition?

Is there anything you don't understand?

What would you add to this definition?

4. How is corporate worship different from simply showing up to church, singing the songs, and listening to the message?

Is true corporate worship a regular practice for you? ***If so***, what things do you do to make this true of you? ***If not***, what things keep you from truly worshipping God on a consistent basis?

5. Read 2 Corinthians 5:17-21. Describe how our salvation leads us to the task of sharing the gospel.

Why is the task of sharing the gospel so often neglected?

6. The final part of the message described the Christian life in terms of being on a raft with other people. The list\* on the last page outlines several “one another” commands from the New Testament.
  - Read through the list and choose 2 to 3 commands that stand out to you.
  - Read the verses attached to those items.
  - Go around the table/room and share what you learned.
7. Why are believers hesitant to fulfill their “one another” responsibilities to other believers? What is lost when these responsibilities are left undone?
8. How would Calvary Baptist Church be different if these responsibilities were more fully engaged? What would be gained if we were more faithful in this area?

## One Another Passages in the NT

1. Love one another  
(Rom 12:10; 13:8; 1 Thess. 3:12; 4:9; 2 Thess. 1:3; 1 Pet. 1:22; 4:8;  
1 John 3:11, 23; 4:7, 11-12; 2 John 5)
2. Live in harmony with one another  
(Rom 12:16; 15:5; cf. Gal. 5:26; 1 Thess. 5:13)
3. Welcome one another (Rom. 15:7; cf. 16:16)
4. Admonish one another (Rom. 15:14; Col. 3:16)
5. Care for one another (1 Cor. 12:25)
6. Serve one another (Gal. 5:13; 1 Pet. 4:10)
7. Bear one another's burdens (Gal. 6:2)
8. Be patient with one another (Eph. 4:2; Col. 3:13)
9. Be kind to one another (Eph. 4:32)
10. Forgive one another (Eph 4:32; Col. 3:13)
11. Sing praises with one another (Eph 5:19; Col. 3:16)
12. Regard one another more important than yourself (Phil. 2:3)
13. Speak truth to one another (Col. 3:9)
14. Encourage one another  
(1 Thess. 4:18; 5:11; Heb. 3:13; 10:25)
15. Seek good for one another (1 Thess. 5:15)
16. Stir up one another to love and good deeds  
(Heb. 10:24; cf. 1 Tim. 6:17-18)
17. Confess your sins one to another (James 5:16)
18. Pray for one another (James 5:16)
19. Be hospitable to one another (1 Pet. 4:9)
20. Be Humble toward one another (1 Pet. 5:5)

\*List taken from *Biblical Doctrine*, 752.