

A Life of True Worship

Psalm 34:1-3 | Who is the Community in our Worship Gathering?

I. God's Design for the Worshipping Community

- ❖ The church is not the building, it is the people who have been saved by Christ.
- ❖ The **Universal Church** includes genuine Christians through the entirety of the church age.
- ❖ A **Local Church** is a group of professing believers in Jesus Christ who meet in some particular location on a regular basis.
- ❖ Examples of the early church meeting together regularly in local assemblies. (Acts 14:23, 14:27, 20:17, 20:28, 1 Cor. 11:18-20, Gal. 1:2, 1 Thess 1:1)

II. God's Amazing Benefits for the Worshipping Community

- ❖ Remembering and rehearsing the Gospel
- ❖ Receiving God's Word together
- ❖ Sharing the Sacraments
- ❖ Demonstrating our unity in the Gospel
- ❖ A greater awareness of God's presence
- ❖ A greater display of God's glory
- ❖ Opportunities of mutual serving and caring

III. God's People Serve as the Body of Christ

- ❖ Every believer is given spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit.
- ❖ Each believer in Christ is important to the Body of Christ's well being.
- ❖ Each believer's gifting is designed to build up and encourage the entire body.
- ❖ We should be thankful for one another and for the way God has specifically gifted and designed us.

Application

- ❖ How have you benefitted from the body of Christ?
- ❖ What are some practical ways we can prioritize our gatherings?
- ❖ What distractions do we need to fight off as we gather to worship God?