



Gathered by the Lamb

John 11:45-57 – March 10, 2024

John 11:45–57

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, [46] but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. [47] So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the council and said, “What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. [48] If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation.” [49] But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, “You know nothing at all. [50] Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish.” [51] He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, [52] and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. [53] So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

[54] Jesus therefore no longer walked openly among the Jews, but went from there to the region near the wilderness, to a town called Ephraim, and there he stayed with the disciples.

[55] Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and many went up from the country to Jerusalem before the Passover to purify themselves. [56] They were looking for Jesus and saying to one another as they stood in the temple, “What do you think? That he will not come to the feast at all?” [57] Now the chief priests and the Pharisees had given orders that if anyone knew where he was, he should let them know, so that they might arrest him. (ESV)

Acts 4:27–28

for truly in this city there were gathered together against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, [28] to do whatever your hand and your plan had predestined to take place. (ESV)

Proverbs 19:21

Many are the plans in the mind of a man, but it is the purpose of the LORD that will stand. (ESV)

Psalms 107:2–3

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble [3] and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south. (ESV)

Hebrews 10:24–25

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, [25] not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (ESV)

Introduction: Gathering and scattering.

1. **Unbelievable Unbelief:** Gathered to kill the Good Shepherd and scatter the sheep. (45-48)

2. **Prevailing Providence:** Wicked instruments in the hands of a gracious God. (49-51)

3. **Merciful Mission:** Gathering the scattered by the Lamb of God. (52-53)

--- Revelation Demands Response ---

1. **Gather around Christ and nothing else.**
(1 Corinthians 2:2)

2. **Gather all the more!** (Hebrews 10:25-26)

3. **Heartache and hope in the gathering of the Lamb.** (Acts 8:1-4; Psalm 107:1-3)

Application questions on the back →

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For the following application questions, review your notes from the front.

SUNDAY after church...

Think through the morning and: 1) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you were able to give. 2) List and praise the Lord for specific encouragement you received. 3) List songs that touched your heart.

MONDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** Are we shocked when we see examples of unbelievable unbelief in the Scriptures? What is our reaction to unbelievable unbelief that we see in our world today? What happens when we forget that we all came from the bucket of unbelievable belief?

TUESDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** Do we have a solid understanding of God's sovereignty over good *and* evil? What are helpful Scriptures that teach us this? How does this help us have hope in the days to come even if they are dark?

WEDNESDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** How is Christ's gathering work in John 11:51-52 merciful? How does Satan/world/flesh try to scatter us around good things and apart from Christ?

THURSDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** How does the gathering together in Hebrews 10:24-25 help us stay focused on Jesus? Why has the church at large (in America) seemed to gather less over the past few decades? What does gathering "all the more" look like? Do we delight to gather together around Jesus?

FRIDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS:** What is our hope when we go through a season of scattering in the Body of Christ?

SATURDAY – READ & PRAY: Find a good Bible reading plan, a good time, and a good place to commune with God. **WATCH:** How has the Lord shown you Himself and His work? **DISCUSS & BUILD:** How might the Lord be calling you to rise up to help in the gathering work of Christ at Calvary?

**Let us join the work of Christ in bringing His Light to the world!
Our purpose is *to know...follow...and love Christ!***

