

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Corporate Worship

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ Day 1

The aim of this week's study is to familiarize yourself with some of the elements of worship in the New Testament. Neither this study nor the upcoming sermon is a comprehensive evaluation of New Testament worship. The following passages and questions are intended to expose you to different emphases in the New Testament about corporate worship.

1. When you think about how people approached God in worship in the New Testament, list some of the elements that come to mind.

2. List what you think are differences between worship in the Old Testament and worship in the New Testament.

In thinking about the gatherings of Christians in New Testament churches, consider the following passages and what they indicate was a part of or prescribed to be included in those gatherings:

3. Read Acts 2:41-47. On the day the church began, what did Christians give their attention to when they met?

4. Read through Paul's rebuke and instruction to the Corinthian church in 1 Corinthians 11:17-34. What should and should not comprise the gathering of the church?

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5. What does Colossians 3:16 teach us about singing in the gathering?

6. What does 1 Timothy 4:13 indicate that Timothy was to do when the church gathered?

7. What does 2 Timothy 4:2 suggest is a significant emphasis in the gathering?

8. Read Hebrews 10:23-25 and describe what should be emphasized among Christians when they gather.

❖ Day 2

Read through 1 Corinthians 14 to see what should be emphasized when a local church meets together:

9. In 14:1-12, what is the reason why the church should seek to see the kinds of gifts used that are understood (as opposed to speaking in other languages which no one else knows)?

10. What kind of activities are included in the gatherings in the church in Corinth in 14:15-16?

11. Read 14:23 and describe what should not happen and why when the church gathers.

12. According to 14:24-25, what kinds of gifts should be used among us and why?

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13. What elements of congregational participation are mentioned in 1 Corinthians 14:26?

14. How does 14:40 contribute to the way we should think about our gatherings?

❖ Day 3

Read John 4:19-24:

15. What did the woman at the well suggest is important about corporate worship and how did Jesus respond?

16. Why did Jesus tell the woman that she worshiped what she did not know as opposed to the Jews and what does that say about the nature of worship (22)?

17. What is the contrast being made in 4:23-24?

18. Read the following passages in the New Testament and describe the Old Testament concept mentioned and what it looks like now in the New Testament:

a. Hebrews 13:15

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b. Romans 15:16

c. Philippians 2:17

d. Philippians 4:18

e. 1 Peter 2:5

f. Ephesians 2:21

g. 1 Corinthians 34:16-17

19. Read Romans 12:1-2 and Philippians 3:3. What does acceptable worship consist of?

20. Based on what you have been reading, list some key principles that come to mind about what worship in the New Testament should look like and consist of.

In preparation for Sunday, pray over some of these Scripture passages, praising God in worship and seeking to grow in your understanding and application of worship from God's Word.