

Elements



Week 2 - Worship

February 18, 2024

Acts 2:42-47 - *“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”*

Worship - We are pleasing God together.

The **Priority** of Worship

- Chief end of man: to glorify God together (Westminster Catechism)
- The world should be able to identify us as believers based on how we live
- “Let your light shine, that they may see your good works and glorify God.” (Matthew 5:16)

Some **Particulars** of Worship

- Normally we think of worship as music
- We need to open our minds to the vastness of worship

Personally

- Caring for people
- Living in peace
- Offering praise
- We can sing, speak, or pray our words of praise

Communally

- Pleasing God together
- We > me
- Sunday service is the only time we’re all together each week, which is significant

Our **Practice** of Worship

Acts 2:42 - devoted themselves to **4 things**

- Teaching - Instruction
- Fellowship - Connection
- Breaking bread - Celebration
- Prayers - Intercession

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A Few **Problems** With Our Worship

Self-centeredness

- *“In the last days, people will be lovers of self.”* - 2 Timothy 3
- *“Praying together in a group is the most selfless thing we can do because it forces us to pray someone else’s prayers.”* - E.M. Bounds

Busyness

- Are you too distracted to worship?
- Are you too distracted to be present even in Sunday service?

Consumer-mindedness

- Everywhere you turn, you are presented with offers for something that promises to satisfy all your needs.
- Even if you don’t like the song we’re singing, does it drive you to greater obedience?

Hard-heartedness

- *“Your iniquities have made a separation between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear.”* - Isaiah 59:2

Your **Plan**

What practical step will you take **today** to prioritize the element of worship in your walk with Christ?