

## Discussion Guide

### *“Beyond Sunday”: Corporate Worship*

September 18, 2022

#### Big Idea

Corporate Worship is a gathering. God gathers us, and we respond through Jesus, our worship leader, in anticipation of the eternal and final gathering to come.

#### Icebreaker

Share your *first* church memory. Share your *most heartwarming* church memory.

#### Discussion Questions

1. Read Hebrews 10:19-22. Have you ever heard someone say (or felt yourself) that they (you) couldn't come to church because the walls would fall? Why is that not possible based on the truth we read in these verses (a.k.a. who and what is our confidence rooted in). What does this confidence allow us to do and why is it important?
2. Continuing to think about these verses, why is it important to “*have our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience*”? What does lingering guilt do in and to us? How does it impact our relationship with God? How does it impact our relationship with others?
3. “*Worship is the regular, ongoing meeting of a local body of Christian disciples with the triune God, expressed in acts of corporate devotion done in partnership with one another, in order to give glory to God, bear witness to their identity as God’s people, proclaim and celebrate the grand narrative of God’s eternal activity, and receive power for living according to God’s kingdom purposes.*” -Constance Cherry
  - a. What is so powerful about coming together to meet with God? What from Jesus’ Greatest Commandment to us do we get to practice when we come together for corporate worship?
  - b. Of the 4 “why’s” of worship in this quote (each underlined) which one excites or speaks to you the most and why?
4. Read Hebrews 10:23-25. What part of a church gathering do most people think of as the Worship part? Is this correct or only a piece of it? What other parts of a church service are worship according to the sermon?
5. Of the several expressions of worship considered in the sermon (congregational singing, prayer, giving, public reading of scripture, affirmations of faith (creedal statements), and preaching) which draws you, personally, closer to God and why? Are there other part of the corporate gathering that you can see as worship that were not mentioned in the sermon?

#### Concluding Question

Our verses this week implore us to consider how we may “*spur one another on toward love and good deeds*” and how we are to “*encourage one another*”. In what specific ways can we do this for one another & for people who attend the corporate gathering? Share an example of how you have been encouraged by attending church or this group and what difference it made in your life.

#### Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?

#### Prayer

- Pray that God would help you, this coming week, to more fully (in all ways) prepare to worship Him on Sunday!