

VEF Worship Service – June 7th, 2020

Call to Worship	Psalm 150:1-6
Worship in Song	This is Your House Let Everything that Has Breath All I Have is Christ
Scripture Reading	Matthew 25:31-35
Worship in the Word <i>Welcome Back – 1 Corinthians 16:5-24</i>	Pastor Darren Carter
Response Song	Power of Your Love
Benediction	Pastor Darren Carter

Announcements

Welcome back. It is good to be able to worship together in person again. For next couple of months we will be having one service time at 13:30 in B1. Please wear a mask when you are inside the church. No food or beverages are allowed in the church at this time. We will be streaming our worship services at 13:30 each Sunday on our YouTube Channel - <https://tinyurl.com/ybsv2avf>

Discussion Questions

1. Our lives were never meant to be lived in isolation. How does being created in the image of God reflect His nature in our corporate worship?
2. Paul says that "there are many who oppose me." Have you ever encountered people trying to prevent the work of God being done? How do you deal with it?
3. Pastor Darren pointed out the five exhortations given in verses 13-14 as being the principle of "faithfulness without compromise." What should that look like in the life of a believer? How can you apply those exhortations to your life? What does it mean to do everything in love?
4. Some people focus on the "superstars" of modern day Christianity. Are there positives to that? What are some potential negatives?
5. What lesson can we take from Paul's reaction to the arrival of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus?

Excerpts from Five Benefits of Corporate Worship

Article by David Mathis

Click the QR Code to read the full article

1. Awakening

Often we come into corporate worship feeling a sense of spiritual fog. During the rough and tumble of the week, the hard knocks of real life in the fallen world can disorient us to ultimate reality and what's truly important. We need to clear our head, recalibrate our spirit, and jump-start our slow heart. Martin Luther found corporate worship powerful in awakening his spiritual fire: "at home, in my own house, there is no warmth or vigor in me, but in the church when the multitude is gathered together, a fire is kindled in my heart and it breaks its way through."

2. Assurance

A second benefit is the community dynamic — which means not only meeting our good desires for belonging and shared mission (fellowship), but also providing a catalyst for our assurance.

3. Advance

Corporate worship also plays an indispensable part in our sanctification — our progressive growth in being conformed to the image of Jesus (Romans 8:29). Corporate worship is for our general "upbuilding and encouragement and consolation" (1 Corinthians 14:3), but also in beholding Jesus together: "we all . . . are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another" (2 Corinthians 3:18).

4. Accepting Another's Leading

One important distinction between public worship and private worship is the place of our initiative. Corporate worship reminds us that our faith is fundamentally reception, not our own initiation. In private devotions, we lead ourselves in some sense. In corporate worship, we're made to receive the leading of others.

5. Accentuated Joy

Last, but not least, is the heightened experience of worship in the corporate context. Our own awe is accentuated, our own adoration increased, our own joy doubled when we worship Jesus together.



<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/five-benefits-of-corporate-worship>