



OWNING THE
MISSION AND VISION
OF CHRIST THE KING

Part 2: In This Together

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From the beginning of time,
God has gathered his people together.

The Evolution of the Gathering Place

The Garden

Altar

Tent or tabernacle

Temple

Synagogue

Any place large enough

Cathedrals and church buildings

Church Myths

The church is a building or a meeting

We go to church because that's where God is

I don't really need to go to church in order to follow Jesus

Why It's Important for the Church to Gather Together

1. Survival

You won't survive on your own as a Christian because you have...

A call on your life that's too difficult

Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it. – Luke 9:23-24

An enemy who's too cunning and malicious

Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. – 1 Peter 5:8

A mission that's too big

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...

– Matthew 28:18-19a

Why It's Important for the Church to Gather Together

2. Meaning (Amos 5:23-24; Isaiah 1:17)

When we gather, we are here for:

Encouragement (Hebrews 10:24)

Worship through giving (1 Cor. 16:2)

Reading of God's Word (1 Tim. 4:13)

Praise (Colossians 3:16)

Corporate Prayer (Acts 2:42)

Obedience (Hebrews 10:25)

"I'd love to hear the worship and see the sacrifices if it really meant much, cost much, or were integrated with lives that are transformed. I don't mind my people meeting together, but make it count for something bigger."

- Author Hugh Halter, paraphrasing Isaiah 1:11-17 and Amos 5:21-27

3. Belonging

So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. Together, we are his house, built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself. We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord.

- Ephesians 2:19-21

3 Parts of a Great Church Service

1. God's part: Providing the world with "collective light" that scatters for his fame
2. Our part: Intimacy vs. Impact
3. Your part: Consumer vs. Contributor

A Question from our Core Commitments

Am I consistently attending corporate worship gatherings?

Am I in?

Small Group Questions

- 1) When did you first begin attending church? Why did you first attend?
- 2) How has your life been impacted by attending church? Be as specific or general as you like.
- 3) Read through Hebrews 10:24-25. What do these verses have to say about why we meet?
- 4) Look back at the section about survival in this outline. How does this change the importance of attending church?
- 5) Of the three parts of a great service listed above, one of them is up to the individual. What are you currently doing or could you begin to do to be a vital contributor to corporate worship?
- 6) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?