

Better Together: 2 of 4
“Worship Is Better Together”
Cornerstone Church of Poway
Pastor Ed Turley
January 13, 2019

Mission: To help people find and follow Jesus.

Vision: We are better together when we grow in community as followers of Jesus.

“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.” **Ephesians 2:19b-20 (NLT2) Remember Verse**

Worship Is Better Together When We:

1. Make Sunday Worship The _____

“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.”

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT2)

“God’s purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would **bring praise and glory to God**. And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the **Good News** that **God saves you**. **Ephesians 1:12-13a (NLT2)**

And when you believed in Christ, He identified you as **His own** by giving you the **Holy Spirit**, whom He promised long ago. The **Spirit** is God’s **guarantee** that He will give us the inheritance He promised and that He has **purchased** us to be **His own people**. He did this so we would **praise and glorify** Him.”

Ephesians 1:13b-14 (NLT2)

“He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of His **mercy**. He saved us through the washing of **rebirth** and **renewal** by the **Holy Spirit**, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior.”

Titus 3:5-6 (NIV)

Notes: _____

2. Make Our Church A Place Known For _____

“Once you **were dead** because of your **disobedience** and your many sins. You **used to live** in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who **refuse to obey God**.” **Ephesians 2:1-2 (NLT2)**

“**All of us** used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very **nature** we were subject to God’s anger, just like everyone else. But God is so **rich in mercy**, and **He loved us** so much, that even though we were dead because of our sins, He gave us life when He raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God’s **grace** that you have been saved!)”

Ephesians 2:3-5 (NLT2)

“God saved you by His **grace** when you believed. And you can’t take credit for this; it is a **gift** from God. Salvation is not a reward for the good things we have done, so none of us can boast about it. For we are **God’s masterpiece**. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the **good things** He planned for us long ago.”

Ephesians 2:8-10 (NLT2)

Notes: _____

3. Participate In _____

“So we **praise** God for the glorious **grace** He has poured out on us who belong to His dear Son. He is so rich in kindness and **grace** that He **purchased** our freedom with the blood of His Son and **forgave** our sins.” **Ephesians 1:6-7 (NLT2)**

“**Don’t be drunk** with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, **singing** psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and **making music** to the Lord in your hearts. And **give thanks** for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 5:18-20 (NLT2)

“In every place of worship, I want men to pray with holy **hands lifted up** to God, free from anger and controversy.” **1 Timothy 2:8 (NLT)**

“You must each decide in your heart how much to **give**. And don’t give reluctantly or in response to pressure. ‘For God loves a person who **gives cheerfully**.’ And **God will generously provide all you need**. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.” **2 Corinthians 9:7-8 (NLT)**

Notes: _____

- What would it look like to make Sunday the best day of our week?

My next right step I will:

- Prepare for Sunday in advance
- Participate in Worship by singing, raising hands, giving
- Join a small group (Tuesday Family Night)
- Sign up for Dinners for 8 (Feb-May)
- Sign up for MOPS (meets every other Sunday)
- Journal through the book of Ephesians

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

Icebreaker: From where did my ancestors immigrate?
 What did their new citizenship mean to them?

“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.” **Ephesians 2:19b-20 (NLT2) Remember Verse**

Worship Is Better Together When We:

1. Make Sunday Worship The Best Day Of The Week

Read Hebrews 10:24-25

Do I always feel like going to church?

What motivates me to make church a priority?

Is there someone who needs my encouragement in their walk with Jesus?

Read Ephesians 1:12-13a

What is our purpose in life?

Since worship is a response to being saved, how does my family bring praise and glory to God?

Read Ephesians 1:13b-14

Commentary: 1:13, 14 sealed... with the Holy Spirit. God's own Spirit comes to indwell the believer and secures and preserves his eternal salvation. The sealing of which Paul speaks refers to an official mark of identification placed on a letter, contract, or other document. That document was thereby officially under the authority of the person whose stamp was on the seal. Four primary truths are signified by the seal: 1) security (cf. [Da 6:17](#); [Mt 27:62-66](#)); 2) authenticity (cf. [1Ki 21:6-16](#)); 3) ownership (cf. [Jer 32:10](#)); and 4) authority (cf. [Est 8:8-12](#)). The Holy Spirit is given by God as His pledge of the believer's future inheritance in glory (cf. [2Co 1:21](#)). The MacArthur Study Bible.

How have you experienced the Holy Spirit working in your life?

Read Titus 3:5-6

What do you learn about the Holy Spirit from this passage?

2. Make Our Church A Place Known For Grace And Mercy

Read Ephesians 2:1-5

Paul divides our life into two periods, what are they?

Where were we at spiritually when God reached out to us?

What does it mean to have God's grace and mercy in my life?

Read Ephesians 2:8-10

How are we saved?

How do works and grace go together?

3. Participate In Worship

Read Ephesians 1:6-7

Why should I give praise to God?

Read Ephesians 5:18-20

Commentary: [5:18, 19](#) The effects of alcohol are obvious, but what happens when we are under the influence of the Holy Spirit? In these verses, Paul lists three byproducts of the Spirit's influence in our lives: singing, making music, and giving thanks. Paul did not intend to suggest that believers only discuss religious matters, but that whatever we do or say should be permeated with an attitude of joy, thankfulness to God, and encouragement of others. Instead of whining and complaining—which our culture has raised to an art form—we are to focus on the goodness of God and his mercies toward us. How would others characterize your words and attitudes? Life Application Study Bible.

Read 1 Timothy 2:8

How do others see my hands?

How do people typically see my hands? Lifted to God in praise? or Anger?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:7-8

There shouldn't ever be pressure to give to the church. Giving is a privilege and a response out of a grateful heart. Each of us should decide in advance on how much we should give. How is my attitude on giving?

Notes: _____

Close in Prayer: Start praying. Be bold and pray specifically.

Snack schedule _____