

## Why Do We Assemble Together?

### I. Introduction:

- A. We know the importance of assembling together (**Hebrews 10:23-25**).
  - 1. We know the minimum when (**Acts 20:7** and **I Corinthians 16:1-4**).
  - 2. We know to be together in one place (**I Corinthians 14:23**).
- B. There are other instructions from God that require we be together that cannot be done without assembling together (**Ephesians 4:15-16**).
  - 1. Ex. Communion (**I Corinthians 10:16-17**) means: “Partnership, i.e. (literally) participation, or (social) intercourse, or (pecuniary) benefaction: — (to) communicate(-ation), communion, (contri-)distribution, fellowship. Fellowship, association, community, communion, joint participation...” (Strong’s # 2842).
  - 2. Ex. Dealing with conflict that starts between two individual Christians (**Matthew 18:15-17**).
  - 3. Ex. Singing to one another (**Ephesians 5:19**; cf. **Hebrews 2:12**).

### II. Body: So That We Do Not Err Like Corinth Or Any Similar Situation (**I Corinthians 11:17-20**), We Need To Consider Why We Come Together.

- A. Most focus on assembling for purposes to worship God. That is not wrong. We do worship [λατρεύω]; render religious homage to God (**Philippians 3:3**).
  - 1. Having said that, some actions of worship are not just done when we assemble together (**I Timothy 2:8-10** and **James 5:13**).
  - 2. Some require us to be together, so much that we even have to wait on one another (i.e. **I Corinthians 11:33**).
  - 3. What these things should indicate to us is that assembling together is about more than just “worship” (consider a principle from **I Corinthians 14:26**). *\*Understanding that spiritual gifts have ceased (I Corinthians 12:3-13:13)*.
  - 4. So, it is not just “for worship” that we come together (**Acts 14:26-27**).
- B. Consider the Lord’s emphasis of edification toward one another (**I Corinthians 14:5**, **I Corinthians 14:12-17**, and **I Thessalonians 5:11**).
  - 1. Singing is not just for God (**Colossians 3:16**).
  - 2. Giving is beneficial to who (**I Corinthians 9:1-14**, **II Corinthians 8:1-9:13** [cf. **I Corinthians 16:1-4**], **Philippians 4:10-18**, and **I Timothy 5:16-18**)?
  - 3. Why, outside of saying we have an example to follow (cf. **Acts 20:7**), is there teaching when we assemble together (**Acts 20:32**, **II Timothy 4:1-5**, and **Titus 1:1-3**)?
  - 4. Consider how, if we were to assemble more frequently, instructions such as **Hebrews 3:13-14** would be expedited.
  - 5. Consider the same point regarding **I Thessalonians 5:12-14**.

6. Furthermore, consider how important it is that we see one another (**Acts 15:36, I Thessalonians 2:17-3:10, II John 1:12, and III John 1:13-14**).

C. Making sure we are not coming together “unto condemnation” (**I Corinthians 11:34**).

1. As we understand the importance of each our in our coming together, are we focusing on each other’s edification (**Romans 14:19**)?

2. Are we using the Scriptures to make sure we are pleasing our Lord regarding our whole assembly, or just for those “acts of worship” that we’ve all heard emphasized over the years (**I Thessalonians 4:1-2**)?

3. The church in Corinth erred, in part, because of self-service in their abuse of the Lord’s Supper and the assembly (**I Corinthians 11:16-34**). Are we all making sure our coming together is not a selfish act (**Mark 10:35-45, Romans 15:1-3, and Philippians 2:3-8**)?

III. Conclusion: A major part of our assembling together is for the benefit of each other. We are expected to be servants towards one another (**Galatians 5:13-14**).