

WITH THE BODY: The Simplicity of gathered, corporate worship!

1. Gathering together – with the body!

Acts 20:7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together (συνηγμένων τῶν μαθητῶν κλάσαι ἄρτον) to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. **Acts 20:8** And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together (συνηγμένοι).

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together (συνηγμένοι); and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 11:26 And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves (συναχθῆναι τῇ ἐκκλησίᾳ) with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.

Acts 14:27 And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Acts 15:6 And the apostles and elders came together (Συνήχθησαν) for to consider of this matter.

Acts 15:30 So when they were dismissed, they came to Antioch: and when they had gathered the multitude together (συναγαγόντες), they delivered the epistle:

Several ideas are stated without trying to prove anything:

- The disciples came together
- The disciples came together for specific purposes
- The disciples just gathered together!

What else would they do? Non-disciples have no such need / desire / habit!

- The disciples came together on the Lord's Day- **Sunday!**

Matthew 28:1 In the end of the sabbath, as it began to dawn toward the first day of the week, came Mary Magdalene and the other Mary to see the sepulchre.

Mark 16:2 And very early in the morning the first day of the week, they came unto the sepulchre at the rising of the sun.

Luke 24:1 Now upon the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they came unto the sepulchre, bringing the spices which they had prepared, and certain others with them.

John 20:1 The first day of the week cometh Mary Magdalene early, when it was yet dark, unto the sepulchre, and seeth the stone taken away from the sepulchre.

- This day the disciples must come together!

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. **1**

Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Revelation 1:10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day (ἐν τῇ κυριακῇ ἡμέρᾳ), and heard behind me a great voice, as of a trumpet,

- Paul and other first century believers evangelized on the Sabbath in the Synagogue!

Acts 13:14 But when they departed from Perga, they came to Antioch in Pisidia, and went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and sat down. **Acts 13:15** And after the reading of the law and the prophets the rulers of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, Ye men and brethren, if ye have any word of exhortation for the people, say on.

Acts 14:1 And it came to pass in Iconium, that they went both together into the synagogue of the Jews, and so spake, that a great multitude both of the Jews and also of the Greeks believed.

Acts 17:1 Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where was a synagogue of the Jews: **Acts 17:2** And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, **Acts 17:3** Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.

Acts 17:10 And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews.

Acts 17:16 Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city wholly given to idolatry.

Acts 17:17 Therefore disputed he in the synagogue (ἐν τῇ συναγωγῇ) with the Jews (τοῖς Ἰουδαίοις), and with the devout persons (τοῖς σεβομένοις), and in the market (ἐν τῇ ἀγορᾷ) daily with them that met with him.

2. Praying together – with the body!

Acts 1:14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Acts 4:24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God with one accord, and said, Lord, thou art God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 12:5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Thoughts:

- All are praying
- As a body
- Some (1,2,3,4....) lead in prayer
- With one voice

3. Singing together – with the body!

Matthew 26:30 And when they had sung an hymn, they went out into the mount of Olives.

Acts 16:25 And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

Ephesians 5:19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

Zephaniah 3:17 The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; He will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; He will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

Thoughts:

- Christians sing
- Christians sing together
- The first Christians sang!
- The first Christians sang the Psalms plus!
- Christians then wrote Hymns to sing!
- “Christians” sing!

4. Reading+ and Preaching+ the word together – with the body!

Acts 20:7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. **Acts 20:8** And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together. **Acts 20:9** And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

1 Timothy 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

2 Timothy 4:2 **Preach the word**; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.

Revelation 1:3 **Blessed** is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

5. Observing the ordinances together – with the body!

Acts 20:7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight. **Acts 20:8** And there were many lights in the upper chamber, where they were gathered together.

Acts 2:41 Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. **Acts 2:42** And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. **Acts 2:46** And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, **Acts 2:47** Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

6. Giving together – with the body!

Acts 2:44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

Acts 2:45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need.

Acts 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

1 Corinthians 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. **1**

Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come. **1 Corinthians 16:3** And when I come, whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem. **1 Corinthians 16:4** And if it be meet that I go also, they shall go with me.