

ActNow! (Applying Christ's Teaching NOW) follows the weekly sermon series of TPMC, and challenges us to apply and put into practice the biblical truths we hear each week. It is the recommended Bible discussion material for TPMC's Connect Groups, and leader's notes are available to all Connect Group Leaders and at the Information Counter.

## **Spiritual Disciplines (Part 2): Worship**

Hebrews 10:24-25

Mr Christopher Tsoi

### **SERMON SYNOPSIS**

The sermon focuses on the spiritual discipline of corporate worship. God designed corporate worship so that we can be in communion with Him and with each other. We are meant to worship together.

- **Worship is the Act of Giving Worth to God and is More Than Music:** The spiritual discipline of worship is derived from the root word "worth" and means to give worth to God in all areas of our lives. While worship often includes singing and music, it is not mainly related to music alone. Corporate worship involves meeting together at church to give worth to God through singing, listening to and reading the Word of God, praying, and giving offerings and tithes together.
- **Corporate Worship is God's Intentional Design:** Meeting together in corporate worship is God's design for us from the very beginning. This practice has roots in biblical history, originating with the portable Tabernacle (1500 BC) and evolving through King Solomon's Temple and the synagogues.
- **Corporate Worship is Necessary for Mutual Encouragement and Support:** One primary reason corporate worship matters is that we meet together to support and encourage each other. Believers are called to "consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24). Corporate worship involves us intentionally giving to enable another person to stay strong in the faith. Our presence, smile, or shared words can remind others - who may be feeling down or close to giving up - that they are not alone.
- **Neglecting Corporate Worship Causes Faith to Flicker:** When corporate worship is neglected, faith can flicker and eventually die down. The sermon uses the analogy of a burning coal. Where a burning coal is removed from the collective fire, it slowly becomes a cold, dead ember. When individuals neglect meeting together, isolation creeps in and they slowly begin to convince themselves that other priorities are more important than God. When the coal is placed back into the collective fire, it becomes hot again for God.
- **Engagement Requires Preparation and Posture (Not Consumption):** Believers must prepare their hearts daily through personal spiritual disciplines like prayer and reading Scripture so that the Sunday service becomes an overflow, not just a refill. During the corporate worship service, everyone must participate fully, coming ready to engage rather than to be passive or to consume. This participation includes singing with God in mind, listening attentively to the sermon to act on God's Word, praying for others' needs, and making the effort to encourage fellow brothers and sisters-in-Christ.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### RELATE

1. It is so easy and convenient to attend online church services and listen to online sermons with Internet technology today. Have there been times when you were tempted to skip Sunday Service and just wait for the YouTube broadcast of the sermon instead in the comfort of your home?

### REFLECT

2. The sermon reminds us that God designed worship to be corporate because we are meant to worship God together as a community. Discuss the importance and benefits of worshipping together as a community in TPMC from the Bible verses below.

[Verses to help us go deeper: Hebrews 10:24-25; Colossians 3:12-16; John 4:23-24]

### RESPOND

3. What is one way you or your Connect Group could be proactive in helping each other grow in our worship of God?

## PRAYER POINTERS

- Thank our Lord for giving us TPMC and our Connect Group as a community that we can worship with and grow together with.
- Pray that everyone in TPMC will choose to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth.

## SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON

"And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near."  
[Hebrews 10:24-25 ESV]