



# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

**Psalms 122:1 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> A song of Ascents. Of David. I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord."

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

John 20:19–20 (NKJV)

<sup>19</sup> Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace *be* with you.” <sup>20</sup> When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

John 20:24–25 (NKJV)

<sup>24</sup> Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

John 20:26–29 (NKJV)

<sup>26</sup> And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, “Peace to you!” <sup>27</sup> Then He said to Thomas, “Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

John 20:26–29 (NKJV)

<sup>28</sup> And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.”

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

## UNIVERSAL ekklesia

**Christians Everywhere**

“I will build MY CHURCH”

*Matt. 16:18*

“there is ONE BODY”

*Eph. 4:4*

“He is also head of the BODY, the CHURCH”

*Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22-23*

## LOCAL ekklesia

**Christians Residing In  
The Same Area**

Who agree to join together in  
fellowship (*Acts 9:26*).

Who worship in a common  
assembly – (*1 Cor. 11:18*)

Who work out of a common  
treasury – (*1 Cor. 16:1-3*)

Who submit to a common  
oversight – (*Acts 14:23; 20:28*)

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



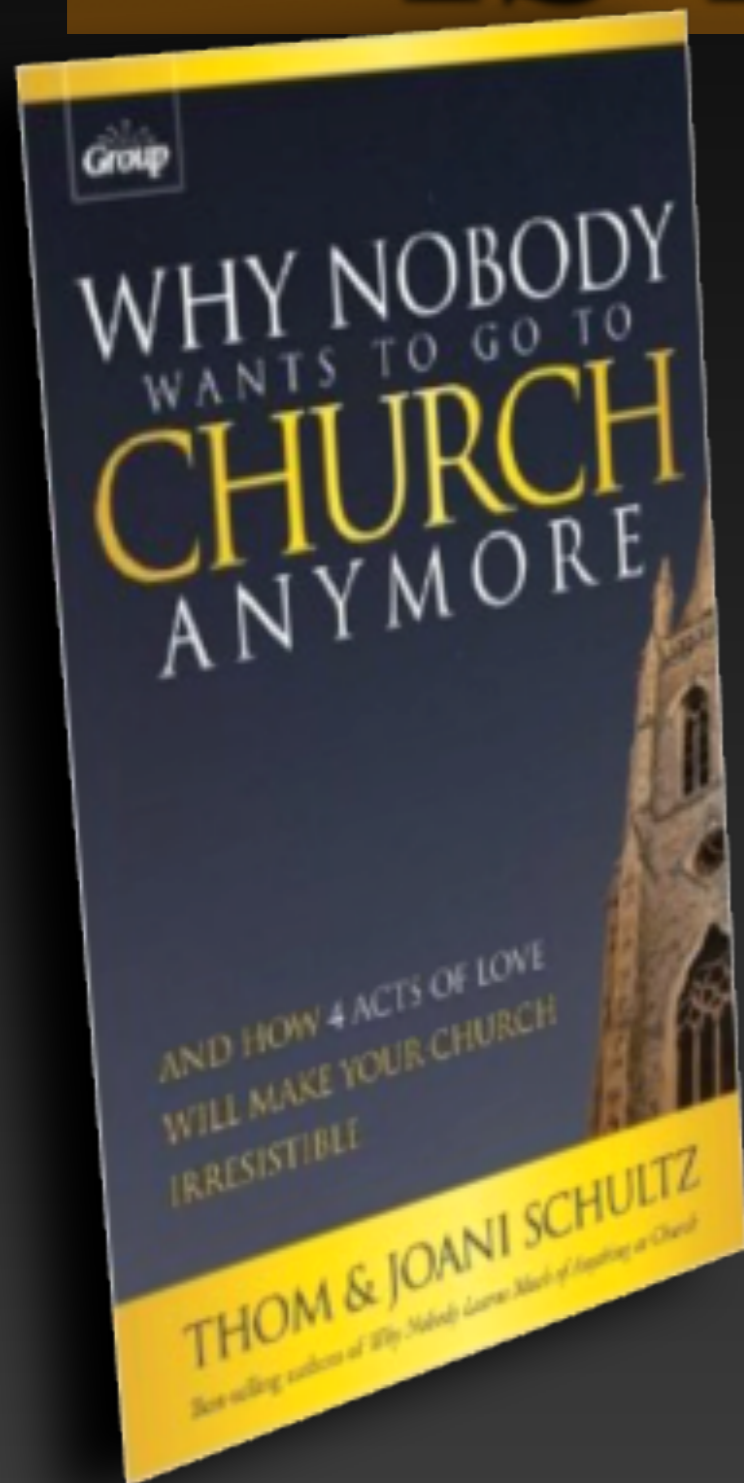
- Local churches were established throughout the Roman Empire - (cf. Acts 2:42ff; 13-20; Col. 1:5,23).
- New Christians banded together for the purpose of corporate worship and fellowship in serving their Master (Acts 2:42-47; 11:19ff; 1 Cor. 11:17-34; etc.).
- This was not some optional plan or un-meaningful happenstance; it was a divinely orchestrated pattern of organizing local churches for God's work (cf. Acts 14:23; Eph 4:11-16).

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



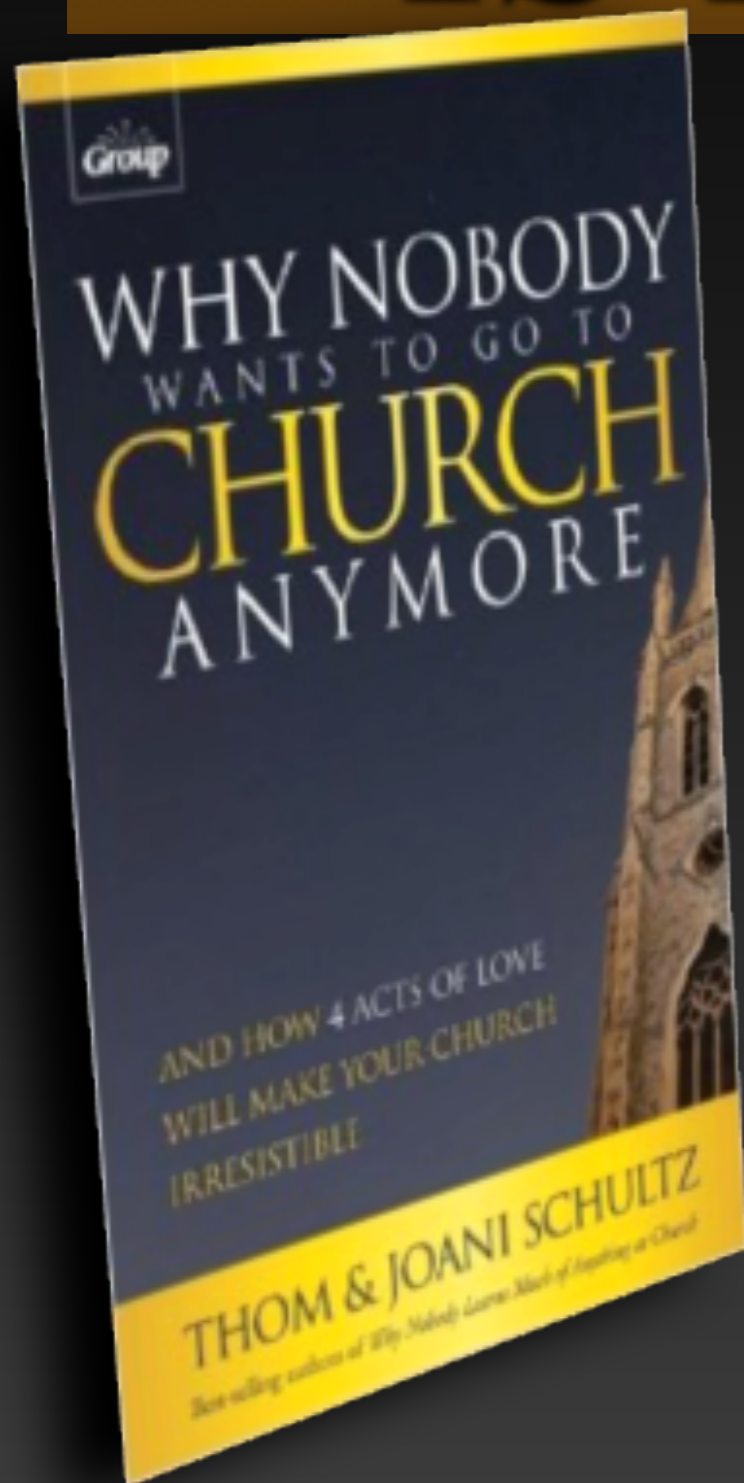
- 👁 In the early chapters of Acts, following the establishment of the church, there are numerous references acknowledging the “togetherness” of the early saints (2:42,44,46; 4:23-24,31-32, etc.).
- 👁 God never intended for a Christian to function as an isolated “island” in a sea of worldly-oriented people.

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



- One of the negative effects of our “individualistic” society has been the development of a negative attitude in the minds of many professed Christians towards any form of organized religion.
- Christianity is built upon, and demonstrated in relationships.

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



## **Romans 12:4-5 (NKJV)**

<sup>4</sup> For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



- 👁 To HONOR God's will
- 👁 To collectively WORSHIP God
- 👁 To ENCOURAGE one another
- 👁 To BUILD UP one another
- 👁 To EQUIP one another
- 👁 To WORK with one another
- 👁 To be ACCOUNTABLE to one another

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

## TO HONOR GOD'S WILL



### **Hebrews 10:24–25 (NKJV)**

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

# TO HONOR GOD'S WILL

## Positively:

Consider One Another –  
(Heb 10:24)

Stir Up Love & Good Works -  
(Heb 10:24)

Exhorting One Another -  
(Heb 10:25)

Edify One Another –  
(Rom. 14:19; 15:1-3; Heb. 3:12-14)

## Negatively:

“Not To Forsake Our  
Assembling”... He 10:25

**Forsake** - *ἐγκαταλείπω* *enkataleipō*

(a) "to leave behind; among; leave surviving" Rom. 9:29; (b) "to forsake; abandon; leave in straits; or helpless" . . . of things; by Christians (negatively); Heb. 10:25.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

## TO HONOR GOD'S WILL



**Acts 2:42–44 (NKJV)**

<sup>42</sup> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers ... <sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

## TO HONOR GOD'S WILL



### 1 Corinthians 11:17–33 (NKJV)

<sup>17</sup> Now in giving these instructions I do not praise *you*, since you come together not for the better but for the worse. <sup>18</sup> For first of all, when you come together as a church, ...

<sup>20</sup> Therefore when you come together in one place, ...

<sup>33</sup> Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, ...

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO HONOR GOD'S WILL



## 1 Corinthians 14:23–26 (NKJV)

<sup>23</sup> Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, ...

<sup>26</sup> How is it then, brethren?

Whenever you come together, ...

<sup>33</sup> For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. ... <sup>34</sup> Let your women keep silent in the churches ...

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



## **John 4:23–24 (NKJV)**

<sup>23</sup> But the hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him. <sup>24</sup> God *is* Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

## TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



- ▶ It is true we can worship God whenever and wherever we are [Study, pray, sing] - (John 4:21-24; Acts 10:9; 16:25)
- ▶ But – NT Christians did worship together regularly and so should we! [teaching, praying, singing, partaking of the Lord's Supper, giving] - (Acts 2:42-47; 4:23-31; 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:17,18; 14:23-33; 16:1,2; Eph 5:19; Col 3:16)

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

## TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



### **Acts 2:42–44 (NKJV)**

<sup>42</sup> And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. <sup>43</sup> Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



**Acts 4:31 (NKJV)**

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



**Acts 20:7 (NKJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Now on the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



## **1 Corinthians 11:33–34 (NKJV)**

<sup>33</sup> Therefore, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another. <sup>34</sup> But if anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment. And the rest I will set in order when I come.

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



## **1 Corinthians 14:26 (NKJV)**

**26** How is it then, brethren?  
Whenever you come together,  
each of you has a psalm, has a  
teaching, has a tongue, has a  
revelation, has an  
interpretation. Let all things be  
done for edification.

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



## **1 Corinthians 16:1–2 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: <sup>2</sup> On the first *day* of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



## **Ephesians 5:19** **(NKJV)**

<sup>19</sup> speaking to one another  
in psalms and hymns and  
spiritual songs, singing  
and making melody in  
your heart to the Lord,

ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO COLLECTIVELY WORSHIP GOD



## Colossians 3:16 (NKJV)

<sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO ENCOURAGE, BUILD UP & EQUIP ONE ANOTHER



- ▶ The Christian is a part of God's family (1 Tim. 3:15).
- ▶ As a member of this local church, I have peculiar responsibilities to those who are fellow-members in this local family of believers (Mark 10:29,30; Heb 10:24,25).

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO ENCOURAGE, BUILD UP & EQUIP ONE ANOTHER



- ▶ Love (1 Pet. 1:22)
- ▶ Comfort & Edify (1 Thes 5:11)
- ▶ Encourage (Heb. 3:13; 10:24)
- ▶ Teach & Admonish (Col. 3:16)
- ▶ Bear Burdens (Gal. 6:2)
- ▶ Forgive (Eph. 4:32; Mt. 6:14-15)
- ▶ Work Together (Phil. 1:27)
- ▶ Accountability - (Eph. 5:21)
- ▶ Discipline - (1 Cor. 5:4)

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO ENCOURAGE, BUILD UP & EQUIP ONE ANOTHER

## Members In One Body - Rom 12:6-16



- ▶ Requires Participation – 6-8
- ▶ Requires Concern & Respect For One Another – 9,10
- ▶ Requires Preferential Association With One Another – 10-12
- ▶ Requires Helping One Another – 13,14
- ▶ Requires Humility - 16

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO ENCOURAGE, BUILD UP & EQUIP ONE ANOTHER

## Members In One Body - 1 Cor 12:12-27



- ▶ Emphasizes Being a Participant – NOT A Spectator - 14-20
- ▶ Emphasizes Equality – NOT Superiority— 15-17, 21-24
- ▶ Emphasizes Dependence – NOT Independence – 14,17, 21-27
- ▶ Emphasizes Unity – NOT Division – 12,13,18,20

# ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

TO ENCOURAGE, BUILD UP & EQUIP ONE ANOTHER

## Members In One Body - Eph 4:1-16



- ▶ Demands diligent pursuit of attitudes promoting unity – 1-3
- ▶ Demands we stand united upon truth – 4-6, 15
- ▶ Demands we grow in truth by the Lord's provisions – 7-15
- ▶ Demands we use our God-given abilities that the body grow – 7-16

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



- ▶ The scriptures clearly teach the need for collective worship, support, service, accountability & sacrifice!
- ▶ Every Christian should seek out a faithful group of the Lord's people and identify with them in order to fulfill their share of the collective responsibilities (Acts 9:26-30)

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



- ▶ To worship, praise and glorify God according to His will.
- ▶ To grow and develop spiritually
- ▶ To use my abilities / to actively participate in a functioning body.
- ▶ To help others grow spiritually
- ▶ To be a good example & influence
- ▶ To be ready, watching and waiting for Jesus' return.

# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT



- ▶ Do you desire to submit to the Lord's teachings and be faithful to Him?
- ▶ Have you been baptized into Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins?
- ▶ Are you an active part of a local group of faithful Christians?



# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

**Psalms 122:1 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup> A song of Ascents. Of David. I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord."



# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

**Psalms 84:2 (NKJV)**

**<sup>2</sup> My soul longs, yes, even faints For the courts of the Lord; My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.**



# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

**Psalm 84:10 (NKJV)**

<sup>10</sup> For a day in Your courts *is* better than a thousand. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God Than dwell in the tents of wickedness.





# WHY ASSEMBLING TOGETHER IS IMPORTANT

**Charts by Don McClain / Preached April 12, 2020 AM**

West 65th Street church of Christ – P.O. Box 190062 – Little Rock AR 72219 –

Phone — 501-568-1062 — Email — [donmcclain@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donmcclain@sbcglobal.net)

Prepared using Keynote / More Keynote, PPT & Audio Sermons:

[www.w65stchurchofchrist.com](http://www.w65stchurchofchrist.com)