

April 18, 2010 – “Why Are You Here...Today?”

- I. **Why Are You Here?**
- Two weeks ago, based on recent Barna Study, this was a valid question...
 - Some are here to check out our church – looking for a new church home...
 - Others checking out Christianity in general – what is Jesus all about...
 - Those part of this church – why are you here...today?
 - Instant answer would be? I am here to _____ God.
 - Next question – How well is that happening?
- II. **We Talk a Great Game**
- Are we more like _____ 29:13 than we care to admit?
 - Do we honor God with _____ service?
 - Are our hearts far from God?
 - Is our reverence based on tradition?
 - We casually talk about God.
 - We get tweaked if church is too _____ or church is changed (we don't “do” church this way)
 - We get up in arms about playing the “right” music...
 - Worship services have become time-bound & routine...maybe irrelevant, even irreverent...
- III. **What's Going On Anyway? *The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak...***
- So many other things interfere with our worship of God:
 - Hectic pre-church Sunday morning
 - Obsession with comforts & luxuries of this _____.
 - Do not stop long enough to “be still and know I am God.”
 - Faulty _____
 - “Our worship of God should be the most momentous, urgent, & glorious activity in our lives.”
- IV. **What Are We To Do? *We have no choice...***
- Worship is a divine _____ – Think “praise the Lord”
 - Consider Exodus 20:4-5 – You shall not worship them or serve them; for I...am a _____ God.
 - _____ 4:23 – The Father seeks true worshipers...
 - Do you want to be a part of hypocritical or corrupt worship or be a true worshiper?
- V. **2 Parties of Worship (part 1): *Object (being) & Subject (doing)***
- 1st crucial step – good and growing understanding of _____ God is.
 - Christians are real good these days with God's imminence, His “right here-ness.”
 - We have forgotten His transcendence: OT examples
 - Sovereign God of Daniel _____
 - Creator God of Genesis 1 _____
 - The One who made the ground holy in Exodus 3 _____
 - Holy God of Isaiah _____
 - The One Job finally ended up speechless before in Job 42.
 - We have forgotten His transcendence: New Testament examples
 - Apostle Paul on the Road to Damascus _____
 - Transfiguration of Matthew _____
 - The One John encounters in Revelation 1 (fell at His feet like a dead man)
 - There is none like our God, anywhere, at any time. He is utterly unique...
 - Yet, He desires for us to know Him; He made it possible for us to be with Him
 - God entered into history in the most amazing fashion – to die on the _____ & rise again...
 - God knows us – the not so good, the pretty bad, and the very ugly & He still loves/cares for us.
- VI. **2 Parties of Worship (part 2) – *Object (being) & Subject (doing)***
- Church – we do our part to help you have a proper worship of God...
 - You – come prepared to enter into God's presence, worship Jesus, & _____ to the Holy Spirit
 - Not satisfied – The greatest change in worship must take place in your heart & in your head...
 - God is most fully glorified when He is recognized for who He is & we rightly _____ to Him...
 - God is not the problem – He alone is worthy of our worship.
 - True worship – faithful believers (profess, proclaim & _____): God, Christ & Holy Spirit...