

*And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard?
And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And
how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written:
"How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"*

ROM 10:14-15

THEME 2023: "BUILD THE CHURCH" 1 COR 3:9



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Worship Service & Communion

Sunday, 5 February, 2023

Worship Services In-person & Online 10:40am & 6pm

 <https://www.youtube.com/user/bereanbarbados/live>

 <https://www.facebook.com/BereanBarbados/live>

Sunday School In-person 9:30 - 1015am

ZOOM links provided

Midweek In-person & Online Service (Wednesday)

Noon & 7:30 pm | ZOOM links provided

Youth Service in-person 7pm (Friday)

 **WhatsApp** 845 - 5752 or Tel: 426 - 4707

email: info@bereanbarbados.org

www.bereanbarbados.org

A Foolproof Discipling Program: Corporate Worship

Regardless of how your church states its mission—living and proclaiming God’s truth in the world” or “spreading a passion for God’s supremacy among the nations”—every biblical church exists to make disciples, that is, gospel-believing, Spirit-indwelt, Word-obeying, Kingdom-advancing followers of Jesus Christ. This goal can be stated in different ways and with different emphases. It can be cute or curt. The bottom line is churches make disciples.

Okay ... but how does a church do this? How does your church do this?

A thought experiment might help us here. Let’s say someone is converted through a relationship with a member of your church. What do you do next? Do you put them through a class for new Christians? Rush to place them in a community group? Maybe you’ve read *The Trellis and the Vine* (ah, that’s where I remember this illustration) and you enlist that member to begin discipling them.

All that’s wonderful. Now let me ask a follow-up question: what does your church’s weekly corporate worship gathering have to do with that baby believer’s discipleship? Further still, what’s the relationship between that newly formed discipling relationship and the Sunday service? More to the point, does your church make disciples when it gathers or only when its members scatter?

If you do a quick Google search, or thumb through your favorite publisher’s most recent catalog, or pick up the latest popular book on discipleship, you’ll find a consistent theme: real discipling work happens either through well-constructed programs or organic personal ministry.

I don’t intend to disparage programs or discipling. A culture of discipling—where members do deliberate spiritual good to one another out of a sense of loving obligation—is necessary for a church to be healthy. Programs can help toward that end.

But I am concerned that many pastors unwittingly overlook the core discipleship program the New Testament prescribes: the corporate worship gathering. It’s more fundamental to Christian growth than any program. Yes, it’s even more fundamental than any personal ministry of the Word that ought to resound throughout the week. The Sunday gathering is the primary discipler of a local congregation. Why? Because of what it **proclaims** and the **pattern** it sets.

Proclamation: The Gathering Disciples

When saints gather on Sundays, they do so to worship, yes, and to grow. And God grows his people through the Word—his world-creating, life-maintaining, saint-sanctifying Word (John 1:3-4; Heb. 1:1; John 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16). It’s no surprise, then, that Scripture regulates the service around itself. In the gathering, we should read and preach Holy Scripture (1 Tim. 4:13; 2 Tim. 4:1-3), we should sing its truths (Col. 3:16), we should pray its hopes (Eph. 6:18), and we should visualize its message through the sacraments (1 Cor. 11:26; 10:21).

A Sunday morning gathering isn't a production. It's not marked by pageantry or sophistry. No. Saints gather every Lord's Day trusting their pastors have planned a service that delivers up their most important meal of the week.

In other words, the corporate worship gathering disciplines the saints because it proclaims God's Word which in turn teaches for growth and trains for ministry. These saints are then called to teach what they've heard in the presence of the assembly (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

Pattern: The Gathering Trains

Think about what you want your church's discipling relationships and programs to look like. You want to equip Christians to read and teach Scripture, to repent of sin, to increase in grace-driven holiness, and to learn how to better bear each other's burdens and sorrows. The Sunday service not only hones these disciplines, it also models how to do them.

Through thoughtful and protracted prayers of praise, confession, thanksgiving, and supplication, saints are taught how to pray for and with one another. They're shown how to recount God's deeds. They're shown how to confess their sin in anticipation of forgiveness. They're tutored in praying for missionaries, their city, other churches, and their fellow members.

Because Scripture regulates the service, saints are taught to listen when God speaks. And since good preachers not only explain the text but interpret and illustrate the Scripture, saints are taught how to read, study, and teach God's Word themselves. Through faithful application, they're taught how to confront and comfort one another with the Bible. Faithful preaching not only sustains the saints but trains them up as teachers.

Through the sacraments, the body is reminded that the Christian life is marked by repentance of sin and faith in Christ (Rom. 6:1-11). The many members are bound as one body through the bread (1 Cor. 10:17), and they are clearly marked off from the world (Matt. 28:19; see also 1 Cor. 5:9-13).

What should the saints do in community groups, discipling relationships, Sunday schools, and during family worship? Some combination of studying Scripture, praising God, confessing sin, and pursuing one another for the edification of the individual and the whole. Put simply, they should do what they see on Sundays. They should speak what they hear. Individual members should imitate the corporate model. After all, healthy gatherings will over time produce healthy disciples, and weak services over time will produce weak disciples—or teach them to look for necessary edification elsewhere.

How does a church make disciples? Through its corporate gathering. While the gathering isn't sufficient to bring saints to full maturity in Christ, it's the engine that drives all those other good efforts.

You can read the full article here:

<https://www.9marks.org/article/a-foolproof-discipling-program-corporate-worship/>

Order of Service

February 5, 2023, 10:40 a.m.

“Build the Church” *1 cor 3:9*

1. Call to Worship
2. Welcome & Announcements
3. Meditation
4. Prayer
5. He is Exalted
6. Above All Power
7. Scripture Reading – John 15: 1-12
8. You are God Alone (offering)
9. Draw Me Close to You
10. In Christ Alone
11. Sermon – Pastor Paul Garnes
12. Behold the Lamb
13. Distribution of Elements
14. Behold the Lamb
15. Benediction

ITEMS FOR PRAYER



- Give God thanks for bringing us through 2022 to see the new year 2023.
- Pray for the ministry and wellbeing of our Pastor and family.
- For healing for our sick members.
- For grace for our shut-in members.
- For the Berean Church families in The DR Congo as they develop means of livelihood.
- For the friends of Berean – The Gilmours, Haecks, Hulls, Moores, Montagues, Porchers, Rogers, Rudders and Taylors.
- For our unemployed members to find meaningful employment.
- For the peace of Jerusalem.

February Birthdays

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|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1 – Tony Montague | 15 – Matthew Morris | 23 – Sheryl Parris |
| 7 – Genifer Bayne | 16 – Nathan Neblett | 24 – Lauraine Bovell |
| 11 – Judy Wiltshire | 19 – Betty Mendes | 28 – Angello Alleyne |
| 13 – Fabian Lamontange | 23 – Doreen Graham | |

Anniversaries

- 10 – Adrian & Susan Greenidge