

Follow Jesus.

Our **pursuit** is guided by God's Spirit, through community...

CORPORATE DISCIPLINES: WORSHIP AND CELEBRATION

(OTHERS NOT DISCUSSED HERE INCLUDE CONFESSION, GUIDANCE, ETC. THESE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A LATER TIME.)

Read Matthew 4:10 *(see also Mark 12:30)*

1) What are some alternatives to worshipping God?

Read John 4:23-24 and Romans 12:1.

2) What do you observe in these two texts, noticing that the context for both is in community?

3) What is worship (definition)? What forms/activity does worship encompass?

4) According to the Roman's passage, worship involves "a living and holy sacrifice." What tension do you see in that passage, as well as what tension do you experience in living-out worship on a daily basis?

5) What could a true worshipping community look like (Riverside Church, Home groups,...)?

6) Break-up into four smaller groups, each group take one of the following verses, look at the context, and then share with the broader group about what this verse/passage is saying in regards to joy.

- Luke 2:10-11 (beginning of Jesus' earthly ministry)

- John 15:11

- John 16:20, 22 (preparation for Jesus' death/earthly departure)

- Galatians 5:22 (post Ascension/Pentecost)

"Celebration is central to all the Spiritual Disciplines. Without a joyful spirit of festivity the Disciplines become dull, death-breathing tools in the hands of modern Pharisees."

-Richard Foster

7) What is the prerequisite to joy/celebration according to these passages, as well as the passages on worship? How do we become for joyful/celebratory as a church?

(Thought: think about the word "overflowing" in 2 Cor. 9:12, as well as the communal nature of the verses that follow verse 12.)

Prayerfully consider how we can both individually and corporately live lives of worship and celebration.