

Keeping the

■ Main Thing the

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We Have a Lot to Unlearn

- I have never felt the presence of God like I did today; I couldn't stop crying."
- I try to explain that we are here first and foremost to minister to the Lord and He comes
- There is a widespread misconception about what "church" is and what worship is
- Modern church culture has trained us to believe that, in church, praise and worship is like the opening act, but the main event is the **POWERFUL MESSAGE FROM THE PERSON WHO HAS ALL THE ANSWERS**



Preaching Not The Main Thing

- Too often preaching, even insightful Bible based preaching= something else I haven't been doing good enough and now I need to do better and try harder at so I can get myself closer to God
- Worship is supposed to be the main thing. Preaching can inspire worship IN the proper gospel context – What God has done for us and now offers us; already ours by grace through faith. Jesus is the MAIN THING
- Response is gratitude and joy and praise and hope and faith and worship/surrender



Don't Forget We Are His Body

- 42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and [ao]to prayer.
- 43 [ap]Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and [aq]signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they *began* selling their property and possessions and were sharing them with all, as anyone might have need.



Life Together

- **46 Day by day** continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from **house to house, they were taking their [at]meals together with gladness and [au]sincerity of heart, 47 praising God** and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding [av]to their number day by day those who were being saved.
- Behold, how they LOVE one another!!



Love in Action AD 60

Colossians 3:12 So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and [k]patience; **13** bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you. **14** Beyond all these things *put on* love, which is [!]the perfect bond of unity. **15** Let the peace of Christ [m]rule in your hearts, to which [n]indeed you were called in one body; and [o]be thankful.



True Corporate Worship

Colossians 3:16 Let the **word of [p]Christ richly dwell within you, [q]with all wisdom teaching and admonishing [r]one another with psalms and hymns and *and spiritual songs, singing [s]with thankfulness in your hearts to God***

17 Whatever you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, **giving thanks through Him to God the Father.**



Main Thing Suddenly So Clear

- We fully experience the presence and power of Jesus Christ **only** as we become fully engaged in and sharing life together as a community of believers, **HIS BODY, the CHURCH**
- Ministering to the Lord and then ministering to each other is a MAJOR source of help, healing, deliverance, and restoration as we welcome the Holy Spirit and invite Him to move in us



Good News!, YOU Are

- deeply loved by God,
- fully accepted by God,
- completely and permanently forgiven by God,
- lavishly blessed by God,
- and eternally, perfectly embraced by God as his child; a child who brings Him unspeakable JOY