

SQUAD

SHARE

Do you attend a worship service? If so, what's your favorite part?

SEEK

The Squad that Worships Together

Colossians 3.15-17 is jam-packed with inclusive, corporate language about worship. It paints a beautiful picture of what a church worship setting can look like.

Firstly, there is the encouragement for the “rule” of Christ’s peace in the hearts of believers. This unique word for “rule” invokes the image of one who awards prizes during a contest. It is the ability to judge or make decisions. Paul is saying, “Whatever you decide, always first ask, “Will this promote the peace of Christ?” Let Christ’s peace be the judge.

Secondly, there is the encouragement to instruct one another with wisdom (v16). In this context, the way this instruction is done is not in the classroom, but in worship. Paul tells the Colossian Christians to teach one another “through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.”

Lastly, the entire passage is enveloped in gratitude/thanksgiving. Paul says, “Be thankful” (v15), “...singing to God with gratitude in your hearts” (v16), and “...giving thanks to God the Father...” (v17). Worship is wrapped in gratitude/thanksgiving. As one theologian noted, “Thanksgiving (in contrast to praise) concerns a concrete, nameable gift from YHWH.” In God’s world, there’s so much to be thankful for; His blessings are numerous.

The worship service, therefore, is the perfect time to engage in the encouragement Paul provides in Colossians 3. It is the time where we can be inspired in our faith, encouraged by others, filled with peace, and bellow out songs of our faith (which ironically teaches us about our faith!). We can reflect on all the God has done for us, and be grateful for His marvelous acts. It is also a time when we can draw others into the faith, extending this peace, wisdom, and gratitude to others.

SEE

PRAISE THE LORD!

DOES THE PEACE OF CHRIST RULE IN YOUR HEART? HOW DOES THE IMAGE OF CHRIST'S "RULE" ENCOURAGE YOU?

PAUL TELLS THE COLOSSIANS TO TEACH ONE ANOTHER WITH SONGS. HOW DO YOU THINK SONGS ARE USEFUL FOR TEACHING? DO YOU LEARN ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN FAITH THROUGH SONGS?

ONE SOCIOLOGIST STATED THAT THE GREATEST MEDICINE FOR NEGATIVITY AND DEPRESSION IS GRATITUDE. WHY DO YOU THINK PAUL MAKES SUCH A BIG DEAL ABOUT GRATITUDE?

IF THE WORSHIP SERVICE CAN BE SUCH A SPECIAL AND ENCOURAGING TIME, WHY DO SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT THERE'S NO NEED TO GATHER WITH OTHER BELIEVERS? IS THE SAME WORSHIP ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH, SAY, A WORSHIP SERVICE WATCHED ON TELEVISION IN THE PRIVACY OF ONE'S HOME?

Please take a few moments to pray with and for one another