

August 17, 2014 Sermon Application Handout
What's Up On Sunday?

I. Introduction

1. Before you begin, go to the Lord in prayer. Pray for your Church. Pray that they would be a body of believers that worships the Lord with reverence, awe, fear, respect, joy, and love.

II. Who Is It For _____?

2. Read Ephesians 2. What is the believer's identity before Christ according to verses 1-3?
3. What happens to a person's identity when they become a Christian according to verses 4-10, 18-22?
4. What about the Gentile audience that Paul was talking to. How had their identity changed according to verses 11-16?
5. Reread verses 14-19. How is the church described? What are some of the metaphors Paul uses?
 - Made us both of _____
 - One new man _____
 - One body _____
 - Fellow citizens with the Son _____
 - Of God's Household _____
 - Is growing into a Holy Temple _____
 - Being built together _____

6. As you contemplate the passage above, what is the focus? Who is the “church” for? Is it just a social organization that unifies around a cause? What does verse 21 remind you of? What does this mean? How should God be viewed in light of this?

7. What does Paul add in verse 22? What are the two components of what church ought to be based on verses 21-22? Who should our love being centered around? When the church gathers who is it for?

8. What have you learned about the church so far that may be different than what you originally thought? What are some ways in which you need to change your thinking regarding the topic of what the church is and why believers gather as a church?

9. Read Acts 2:41-47. As people came to faith, the church began to grow and thrive. What were some of the characteristics of the church? What did their gathering as a church produce according to verse 47?

10. As you consider these things, do you observe this in your own experience at church? Are you hearing God’s Word spoken? Are you praying with other believers regularly? Are you showing the love of God to one another in caring for the needs of others? In what way? Does this result in praise to God?

11. Read John 4:23-24. What is God seeking from his church? Would this take place just on Sunday? What is the believer's life to be an act of?

12. Although the above should be true of every believer every day; when they assemble together on Sunday, how might it be a crescendo of their week?

13. What have you learned so far that God wants from believers when they gather? How do you think He desires to be worshipped?

III. What Does He Want _____?

14. Read 1 Chronicles 13. Who is the reigning King at this time?

15. According to verse 1-3, what did David want to place in Jerusalem? What is this item (cf. Ex. 25; Deut. 10:5)?

16. According to verses 6-9; did David and his men take appropriate care of this item? (Cross reference with Numbers 4:4-20 to help develop your answer).

17. As you contemplate what God did; does it seem fair? Why or why not? (cf. Psalm 145:17)?

18. What had Uzzah presumed that day? What was he treating lightly? How does this example help you develop a right attitude about worship of the Lord? How should this example influence your worship on Sunday in particular?

19. Although the example above is a man from the Old Testament under the old covenant; is the believer's attitude today toward the Lord to be any different? Why or why not? Does God no longer care how He is to be worshipped (See Acts 5:1-11 and 1 Cor. 11:27-32 to help develop your answer)?

20. Based on what you have learned so far, when believers come together on Sunday for worship; who should they focus their attention on?

21. What about you? How careful are you to treat God as Holy, to exalt and honor Him as He deserves? What is the attitude of your heart when you arrive and how is it expressed to God in your singing, praying, and hearing His Word being taught? List out ways you prepare for worship the night before.

22. Finish your study by reading 1 Chronicles 15:25-28. Three months have passed since the Uzzah's episode and it appears David has learned his lesson. What did he do right this time? What is the overall attitude of everyone's worship?

23. Commentator Dale Davis said, “A fearful sense of God’s holiness does not suppress joy but stimulates it.” Is this true? Does a genuine, deep love for God produce a desire to honor and praise Him with joy? Did you see that in 1 Chronicles 15? How do the following verses make the connection between fearing the Lord, worship and joy?
- Ps. 2:11
 - Ps. 96:9
 - Heb. 12:28-29
24. End your time in prayer and in examining your heart. As you think through this lesson and your own personal worship; has it been more like Uzzahs? Have you been treating the Lord with disregard? List out specific ways, then spend time confessing your sin to God and asking Him to forgive you of your sin and to help you to have gratitude and acceptable service with reverence and awe toward Him.

Resources:

The Deliberate Church by Mark Dever and Paul Alexander

The Ultimate Priority On Worship by John MacArthur

The Holiness of God by R.C. Sproul