The Church as a Temple—Worship | Ephesians 2:19-22

Pastor Bill Curtis | September 17, 2017

**Sermon Notes**

1. Redemption in Christ us in one house of worship. Eph 2:14-22



1. Redemption in Christ us to live lives of worship. 1 Peter 2:9-10

**Journey Group Questions**

1. Read Ephesians 2:11-18. Through Christ, God unites different kinds of people in churches, which should crush the bigotry and bias of social identity.
	1. What are some of the various social distinctions that have the potential to divide people in churches?
	2. How do we overcome these divisions and work to preserve unity at Cornerstone for the glory of God?
2. Read Ephesians 2:19-22 and 1 Peter 2:9-10. In the Old Testament, the Temple was the dwelling place of God which declared the glory of God in the world. Now, in the New Testament, local churches like Cornerstone Baptist Church fulfill that role. Churches are qualified for this role because they are composed of church members who are genuine Christ-followers--those indwelled by God the Holy Spirit.
	1. Can churches fulfill their purpose of declaring the glory of God in the world if the people in those churches are *not* church members who are genuine Christ-followers? Why, or why not?
	2. How does the very existence of genuine churches declare the glory of God to the world?
	3. In addition to the brute fact of the existence of true churches, what are some other ways that churches declare the glory of God in the world?
	4. What are some of the consequences for churches and for the world if churches do *not* declare the glory of God in the world?