



The Why Behind the What - Prayer

Sunday, September 17, 2017

Lesson:

Why do we do things the way we do while we are gathered together on Sunday mornings? It is the why behind the what - and today we look at why we pray in church.

ICEBREAKER:

This week, take time to introduce each other and welcome new faces.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Read Matthew 16:13-20
 - a. Who did the apostles say that people thought Jesus was? Who did Peter say Jesus was?
 - b. Do you think the other apostles thought Jesus was the Christ? Why or why not?
 - c. Why do you think Jesus chose that moment to tell Peter about the church?
2. What are the different parts of worship that we go through each week?
3. How often did the early church gather together?
4. Is there any way the church could gather like that today?
5. Turn to Acts 12.
 - a. Who was the main person persecuting the church here?
 - b. Why did he do this (discussed in sermon)?
 - c. What did he do with James? With Peter?
 - d. Why couldn't he immediately kill Peter?
6. Read Acts 12:5. Was there anything else really that the church could have done at this point?
7. Talk about a time when prayer is/has been your only option.
8. What does it mean to pray without ceasing/ferently?
9. The church seemed surprised that they're prayers were answered? Talk about a time when you were surprised that God answered a prayer.