

WISE REMINDERS REGARDING WORSHIP

ECCLESIASTES 5:1-7

When we gather together...

- Are we keenly aware of whose house we're in?
- Is hearing God speak more important than other conversations or thoughts?
- Have you kept your promises?

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. What are some of the wrong reasons we go to church? How can we prepare ourselves better to be ready to worship and hear from God?
2. Read 1 Chronicles 7:1 – 3 and Isaiah 6:1 – 5. How do these images cause you to watch your steps when you come into God's house?
3. Read Acts 2:1 – 4. How is the church different than the temple Solomon worshiped in? What are the similarities? (1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 2:19 – 22 and 1 Peter 2:2 – 4)
4. When you read Ecclesiastes 5:1 – 3 why should our words be few? And how do our conversations at church sometimes distract us from why we are there? What should our conversations and thoughts be focused on? (Philippians 4:6 – 9)
5. In verse 2 we read "God is in heaven and you are on earth." What kind of perspective should those words give us as we live out our lives under the sun?
6. Randy said on Sunday that the Christian community is experiencing an epidemic of broken vows. Do you agree with this statement? Why is keeping our promises important to God and how does breaking them affect our worship? What are some vows we should never make in the first place?
7. When you read verse 6 - 7, how does that verse relate to vows we make and excuses we make when we break them? What should repentance look like when we break our promises? (Jonah 2:9 and 2 Corinthians 7:10 & 11)
8. What are some things you personally want to change or start doing as you prepare to go to church? How can you make it the most anticipated moment of your week?

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"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, [The Last Battle](#)