



## I WILL... “Gather”

Acts 2: 42-47

Pastor Brad Eubank  
February 5, 2023

### The gift we have in gathering [Hebrews 10:19-25](#)

- 1) We are all wired for worship & community

From David Foster Wallace:

*“Everybody worships. The only choice we get is what to worship. And the compelling reason for maybe choosing some sort of god ... to worship ... is that pretty much anything else you worship will eat you alive. If you worship money and things, if they are where you tap real meaning in life, then you will never have enough, never feel you have enough. It's the truth. Worship your own body and beauty and sexual allure, and you will always feel ugly. And when time and age start showing, you will die a million deaths before [your loved ones] finally plant you .. Worship power, and you will end up feeling weak and afraid, and you will need ever more power over others to numb you to your own fear. Worship your intellect, being seen as smart, you will end up feeling stupid, a fraud, always on the verge of being found out. Look, the insidious thing about these forms of worship is not that they are evil or sinful; it is that they're unconscious. They are default setting.”*

- 2) We come to worship the Lord for who He is and what He has done
- 3) We hold fast to our confession of our hope in Jesus
- 4) We participate in worship, not observe

All scripture is from the NASB (New American Standard Bible, 1995 version), unless otherwise noted.

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Petal First Baptist Church, Petal, Mississippi

601.545.3198 [petalfbc.com](http://petalfbc.com)

## **We gather to...** (adapted from *Gather* by Tony Merida)

- 1) stir up one another [Hebrews 10:24-25](#)
- 2) hear God's Word [1 Timothy 4:13](#)
- 3) sing together [Colossians 3:16](#)
- 4) pray together [1 Timothy 2:1-2](#)
- 5) celebrate the gospel visually  
[Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25](#)
- 6) reach unchurched and the lost [John 13:34-35](#)
- 7) scatter & share [James 1:22; Micah 6:8; 1 Peter 2:9-12](#)

## **What are My Next Steps?**

- 1) I will make it a **priority**
- 2) I will **prepare** my heart & **pray** before I come & as I enter

From Charles H. Spurgeon:

*"As many mercies are conveyed from Heaven in the ship of prayer, so there are many choice and special favors which can only be brought to us by the fleets of united prayer. Many are the good things which God will give to His lonely Elijahs and Daniels, but if two of you agree as touching anything that you shall ask, there is no limit to God's bountiful answers. Peter might never have been brought out of prison if it had not been that prayer was made without ceasing by all the Church for him. Pentecost might never have come if all the disciples had not been, 'with one accord in one place,' waiting for the descent of the tongues of fire. God is pleased to give many mercies to one pleader, but at times He seems to say, 'You shall all appear before Me and entreat My favor, for I will not see your face, unless even your Brothers and Sisters are with you.'"*

- 3) I will **presume** (expect/anticipate) the Lord is going to move
- 4) I will **participate** as a worshiper rather than a judge
- 5) I will **position** myself in such a way as to be transformed
- 6) I will **proceed** (depart) out the door on mission



Will you **23** in **23** = Make **23 connections**  
in 2023?

**PFBC GOAL: 3500 Connections**

#### **I WILL...**

- (1) Welcome & Belong
- (2) Connect & Grow
- (3) Gather
- (4) Care
- (5) Serve
- (6) Go & Send
- (7) Give

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## **Our Response:**

- 1) Do you see worshiping with other believers as a gift? Why or why not? How can you see this differently?
- 2) What specific changes do you need to make in your life and the life of your family to make worship a priority?
- 3) What difference would it make next Sunday if you prepared your heart for worship & presumed the Lord was going to move in your life & those around you?
- 4) On Sundays, do you think of yourself as being there to contribute & build up others? How can you do this more?
- 5) What aspects of church gatherings do you personally find most precious? Why is it so valuable to gather to participate in Worship - hear God's Word, share the Lord's Supper, sing and pray together?
- 6) How do you need to take worship with you as you scatter into your everyday life? What changes might you need to make to do that?