1 - “**What Is The Reason For Which You Have Come?”**

Acts 10:21-29

2 – **Context**

* Acts Chapter 10 and the conversion of Cornelius and his household.
* Cornelius directed to send for Peter so that he might hear “*words… by which you will be saved*.” (Acts 11:14)
* Cornelius sent three men to summon Peter who asked them this question: “*what is the reason for which you have come*?” (10:21)

**Why are you here?**

3 – **Context**

* After being told that an angel had directed him to send for Peter to *“hear a message from you”* (10:22) Peter goes and finds Cornelius with “***many people***” gathered together and he explains that he came without “*raising any objection*” because it was the will of God.
* **What they were expecting of him?**
* So he asks, “***for what reason have you sent for me?***”(10:29)

**“Why am I here?”**

4 - **What are our reasons?**

* Why do we come together?
* What are we expecting from those who preach/teach?
* Two very different mindsets. To get something or to give something.
* When our reasons for coming together as a church aren’t clear, strong and compelling, our coming together will indeed be lacking, inconsistent and unfulfilling.

5 - Coming Together For **What We Get Out Of It**

Many times it has been said, *“I just didn’t get anything out of it!”*

* Such a declaration begs the question, **what are we looking to get out of it?**

6 - Coming Together For **What We Get Out Of It**

* **Entertainment, socialization, story telling**? (1 Corinthians 2:1-5; 11:17, 34)
* **Carnal or Spiritual?** (John 6:26; 1 Cor. 2:14-3:3)

7 - Coming Together For **What We Get Out Of It**

* **Someone else to train my children** in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)
* What is **the role of bible classes** for children when we come together? (Acts 20:20, 27)

8 - Coming Together For **What We Get Out Of It**

* **To see and be seen of men**. (Matthew 6:1)
* Notice the difference in the context of Luke 7:36ff.

9 - Coming Together For **What We Get Out Of It**

**To cause dissension**. (1 Timothy 6:3-5; 2 Timothy 2:23; Titus 3:9)

* Play the “devils advocate” and stir the pot?

10 - Coming Together For **What We Get Out Of It**

* **Affirmation. To come to hear what I want to hear. (2 Timothy 4:3; Jeremiah 6:14)**

11 - Coming Together **For What We Need**

**Do we come to get…**

* **Reminders and stirring up.** (2 Peter 1:12-15; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25)
* **Equipped to work & serve**. (Ephesians 4:11-13)
* **Prepared to battle**. (Ephesians 6:10; 1 Pet. 5:8)
* **Exhortation to keep running.** (Heb. 12:1-2)
* **Forgiveness and salvation.** (Luke 18:13)

12 - Coming Together For **What We Give**

What ought we be looking to give when we assemble?

* **Our worship, praise and adoration to God**.
(John 4:23-24; Acts 17:25-26; Luke 17:18; Psalms 29:1-2; 95:1-6; Hebrews 12:28; Revelation 4:10; 7:11)
* Who is at the center of worship? Self or God?

13 - Coming Together For **What We Give**

* **Our focus and attention to the songs, prayers and bible study.** (Ecclesiastes 5:1; Ephesians 4:12)
* Are we **examining ourselves** as we worship and make application? (1 Corinthians 11:28; Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 13:3-5; Malachi 2:2)

14 - Coming Together For **What We Give**

What ought we be looking to give when we assemble?

* **Our encouragement and edification to our brethren?** (Heb. 10:24; 3:12-13; 1 Thess. 5:11-14)

15 - **For what reason…?**

* Did Lydia and household assemble at the riverside? (Acts 16:13-15)
* Did the Bereans come together each day? (Acts 17:11)
* Did the Athenians come to listen to Paul? (Acts 17:17-21)
* Did Felix seek time with Paul? (Acts 24-27)
* Did Herod seek time with John the Baptist? (Mark 6:19-20)

16 - **Coming Together For What We Give Leads to Blessings From God**

* We are built up and strengthened through our worship, study and encouragement of others.
* More importantly, we are approved by God when we humbly seek Him in our worship and devotion.
* Ultimately, we come together as sinners who need God’s forgiveness?