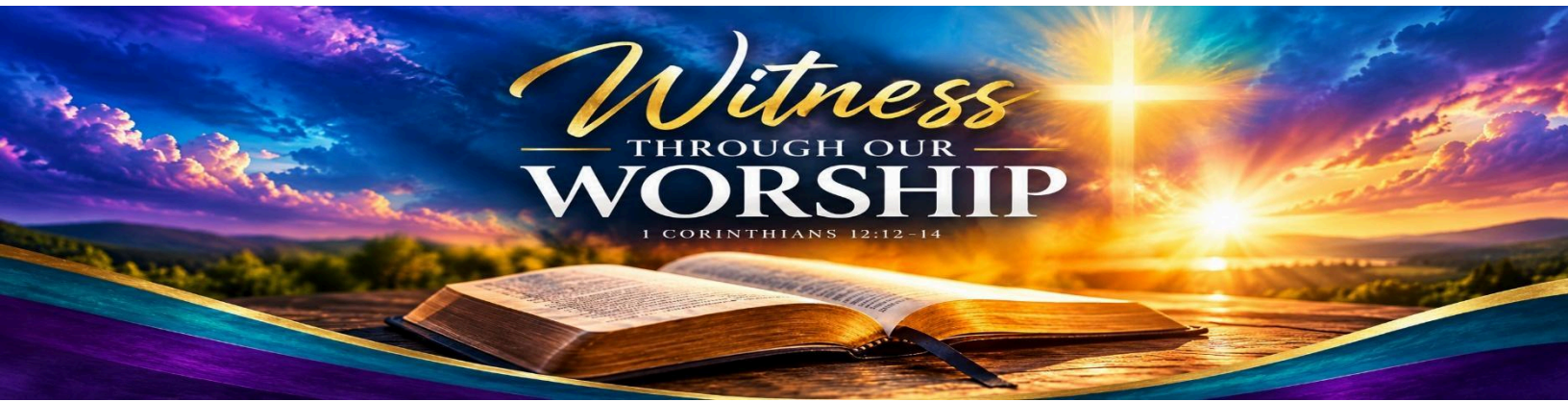




Witness THROUGH OUR WORSHIP

1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-14

Read: 1 Corinthians 12:12–14

“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body... Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.”

Paul reminds us that although the Body of Christ is made up of many people, backgrounds, gifts, and experiences, we have been joined together by one Spirit into one body. Baptism beautifully demonstrates this truth. It is an outward expression of the inward work God has already done in the heart of a believer. The water itself does not save us—Christ alone saves. Baptism is an act of obedience and worship that publicly declares that we have placed our faith in Jesus Christ and now desire to walk in newness of life.

Our worship, therefore, is also our witness. When we gather, praise, serve, love, obey, and publicly identify ourselves with Christ, we show others what God has done and is continuing to do in our lives.

Acts 8:26–39 gives us a powerful picture of how witnessing, hearing, and receiving the Gospel can lead a person to baptism.

Philip was directed by the Holy Spirit to leave Samaria and travel toward a deserted road. What may have appeared to be an unexpected assignment was actually a divine appointment. God was already preparing an Ethiopian official who had traveled to Jerusalem to worship and was now returning home while reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The Spirit directed Philip toward the man’s chariot. Philip heard him reading Scripture and asked whether he understood what he was reading. The Ethiopian welcomed Philip’s help, and Philip used the Scripture to explain the good news about Jesus. As they continued traveling, they came to water, and the Ethiopian expressed his desire to be baptized.

The Ethiopian was hungry to know God and eager to respond. His encounter with the Gospel moved him from seeking to believing, and from believing to publicly identifying himself with Christ, an outward witness to an inward transformation.

Our Worship Becomes Our Witness

Our witness is part of the reason we gather together. Through Christ’s love, we have something worth sharing. As God works in us individually and brings us together corporately, our lives become a testimony of who He is.

1. True Love

“But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8

Our witness begins with the love of God. We do not worship because we first loved Him; we worship because He first demonstrated His love toward us through Jesus Christ. The cross is the clearest picture of that love.

When we understand how deeply we have been loved, forgiven, and accepted by God, worship becomes more than a Sunday activity. Our lives begin to reflect His love toward others.

Reflect:

1. How has God demonstrated His love toward you personally?
2. In what ways can your treatment of others become a witness of Christ's love?
3. Who needs to experience the love of Christ through you this week?



2. There He Is With Us

“For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.” Matthew 18:20

There is power in gathering together in the name of Jesus. Corporate worship reminds us that Christianity was never intended to be lived in isolation.

When believers pray together, worship together, serve together, celebrate together, and support one another, our unity becomes part of our witness. People should be able to see the presence of Christ reflected in the way His people fellowship with one another.

Reflect:

1. What does gathering with other believers provide that we cannot experience in isolation?
2. How can our fellowship with one another demonstrate Christ to someone observing the church?
3. What can you personally do to help strengthen unity within the Body of Christ?



3. Raise Up A Child

“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old, they will not turn from it.” Proverbs 22:6

Our worship becomes a witness to the generations coming behind us.

Children and young people learn not only from what we tell them, but also from what they see demonstrated before them. They observe how we pray, how we worship, how we serve, how we respond to hardship, how we treat people, and whether our lives outside the church reflect what we profess inside the church.

Our responsibility is to intentionally model a life that points the next generation toward Christ.

Reflect:

1. What are the children and young people around you learning from the way you live your faith?
2. How can parents, families, and the church work together to nurture the next generation spiritually?
3. Is there a young person God may be calling you to encourage, mentor, or pray for?

4. Seek Righteousness

“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.” Matthew 6:33

A powerful witness is produced when our priorities demonstrate that God comes first.

Seeking His kingdom means allowing His will, His Word, and His righteousness to guide our choices. Worship is not limited to singing songs; worship is also choosing God’s way when another way might be easier or more convenient.

When others see us consistently seeking God in our decisions, relationships, responsibilities, and difficulties, our lives become evidence of what it means to trust Him.

Reflect:

1. What does seeking God’s kingdom first look like in your daily life?
2. Is there an area where your priorities need to be realigned with God’s will?
3. How can righteous living strengthen the credibility of our Christian witness?



5. As for me and my house

“But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Joshua 24:15

Joshua made a clear declaration: regardless of what others chose, his household would serve God.

Our witness requires intentional commitment. Each of us must personally decide whom we will serve, but that decision should also influence the atmosphere we create within our homes.

A Christ-centered household does not mean a perfect household. It means a household that continually chooses to return to God—praying together, extending forgiveness, practicing love, studying His Word, serving others, and making Christ central.

Our worship needs to be a part of our home life as well. We should not wait until we come to church to worship God; worship should be a part of our daily lives.

Reflect:

1. What does “As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” mean for your household?
2. What spiritual practices could you strengthen within your family or home?
3. How can your household collectively become a witness to others?

Discipline for the week: Pray for our baptismal candidates

Throughout this coming week, intentionally pray for each baptismal candidate by name:

Shameka Williams

Garrin Benston

Tierza Benston

Avery Baines

Malachi Goodwin

Tosha Green
Charlene Cowan

Pray that they will:

- grow stronger in their relationship with Christ;
- remain rooted in God's Word;
- experience the encouragement and support of their church family;
- boldly live out their faith;
- understand that baptism is not the end of their journey, but another step in a lifelong walk with Jesus.

Also take time this week to consider your own witness. Ask God to show you one intentional way your worship, service, words, or actions can point someone toward Christ.

CLOSING PRAYER

Heavenly Father,

We thank You for Your goodness, faithfulness, mercy, and love. Thank You for every testimony, every answered prayer, every door You have opened, and every difficult season through which You have carried us.

Thank You especially for the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. Help us never to forget that our worship is more than the songs we sing or the words we speak. Our worship is demonstrated through the way we live, serve, love, forgive, obey, and represent You each day.

We pray for each person who has made the decision to publicly identify with Christ through baptism. Strengthen their faith, guide their steps, surround them with loving believers, and help them grow continually in Your Word and in their relationship with You.

Give all of us boldness to share Your goodness with others and wisdom to know when and how to share our testimony. Let our words encourage, our actions demonstrate Your love, and our attitudes reveal the transforming work You have done within us.

May the way we worship, serve, love, and treat others point people toward You. Use our lives as a witness so that others may see Your goodness and give glory to Your name.

In Jesus' name, Amen.