

# From Crowd to Audience to Participant ... in Worship

- A. A *crowd* is a large number of people who may or may not have intentionally gathered together.
- B. An *audience* is a group of spectators who have gathered to listen or to view and are providing the opportunity to be heard or seen.
- C. A *participant* is a person who takes part in, has a share in, or participates.
- D. What does this mean for our assemblies of worship?

## I. “\_\_\_\_\_” Worshipers are Participants

- A. “*You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve*” (Matt 4:10).
- B. “*The true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth*” (John 4:23-24).
- C. “*Present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God...*” (Rom 12:1-2).
- D. “*Let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe...*” (Heb 12:28-29).

## II. When We “Come Together as a Church” ... What Does Participation Involve?

- A. As we \_\_\_\_\_ together?
  - 1. The modern religious landscape is dominated by the Performer-Audience model.
  - 2. The Spirit of God calls us to “\_\_\_\_\_” one another (Eph 5:19), “\_\_\_\_\_” and “admonish” one another (Col 3:16), “*singing and making melody to the Lord*” with our hearts.
- B. As we \_\_\_\_\_ together?
  - 1. My head can be bowed, eyes can be closed, and my heart can be “*far from*” God (Matt 15:8).
  - 2. \_\_\_\_\_, petitions, \_\_\_\_\_, and thanksgivings are made by participants in prayer (1 Tim 2:1; Acts 12:5; James 5:16).
- C. As we \_\_\_\_\_ and study together?
  - 1. Crowds and audiences all too often “*turn away from listening to the truth*” (2 Tim 4:3-4).
  - 2. Participants “\_\_\_\_\_” (Acts 17:11) the teachings and urgings (1 Tim 6:2) of the Word with “*all eagerness*”; they respond to \_\_\_\_\_, rebukes, and exhortations (2 Tim 4:1-2).
- D. As we \_\_\_\_\_ together?
  - 1. We may say we are observing the Lord’s Supper, but... (1 Cor 11:17-22).
  - 2. Participants \_\_\_\_\_, proclaim, \_\_\_\_\_, and discern (1 Cor 11:23-34).
- E. As we \_\_\_\_\_ together?
  - 1. I can use and misuse money in ways that reveal my heart is not right with God (Acts 8:21).
  - 2. Participants don’t give reluctantly, but “\_\_\_\_\_” (1 Cor 16:1-2; 2 Cor 9:6-7).

**Participants take part in, share in, participate as “\_\_\_\_\_.” Participants enjoy fellowship.**  
(1 Cor 1:9; 2 Cor 6:14; 1 John 1:3-7; Phil 2:1-11)