Sermon Questions for PCC Small Groups

**Title:** The Indispensible Gathering

**Text:** Psalm 118

**Series:**God is in the House (Corporate Worship)

**Date Preached:** February 5, 2017

**Introductory Comments:** Because the subject of worship is so wide in it’s scope, I’ve decided to walk through Psalm 118, allowing its structure and ideas to shape our message. I’ve chosen Psalm 118 because of its corporate nature. Though David is the primary worshipper, his worship is in the context of the “gathering”. Read the Psalm through out loud.

**Questions:**

1. What are some of the indicators within the text that suggest that David’s worship is both *with* and *for* the “congregation”?
2. Corporate worship is meant to be deeply formative. In other words, it’s transformational; we change as we worship together. Does Psalm 118 reveal this? In what ways? If this is difficult to answer, move to the next question and discuss whether you agree with Brian’s statement or not.
3. *“When God commands us to gather and sing, shout, speak, and proclaim his praise, it’s not because there’s anything that he needs from us. God is not dependent on our worship to feel better. Our singing doesn’t lift his sagging spirits as if he’s hungry for attention and “needs a little love”. Could it be that the corporate worship event is actually for our benefit? That worshipping together is good for us? That something is happening to us whether we feel it or not?”*
4. How does the story of God’s call to Moses from the Burning Bush reveal the unique relationship between worship and mission?
5. **Tim Keller: Worship is “seeing what God is worth, and giving him what he’s worth.”** Worship is revelation and response. What parts of our corporate worship service is committed to “revelation” and what parts are committed to “response”?
6. Since corporate worship is an honest yet hopeful re-enactment of the Gospel, how has consistent corporate worship given you hope to press on in your faith?
7. Is it possible that God’s manifest presence with his worshipping people is dependent upon our degree of desire or expectation? If so, how can our expectation for God’s presence grow at PCC?