

“Whose Here?”

I have been reading and studying the book of Acts and came across something interesting this morning.

When Peter was called to the Gentile Cornelius' home, he was invited to speak the word of God (the gospel) and share a message that God had laid on Peter's heart. Cornelius had gathered family, servants, friends and acquaintances together specifically to hear Peter. It was quite the gathering.

But Cornelius says something interesting: ***“Now therefore we are all here in the presence of God to hear all that you have been commended by the Lord.”***

When we gather for services this Sunday (at whichever Christian congregation you choose), we often focus on so many things:

- What is the preacher talking about?
- Is he interesting and capturing my attention.
- How long is service going to be?
- I wonder if my friend will be here this morning?
- Where should we have lunch today?
- I should have worn something else.
- Is “so and so” here and if he/she is not I am going to be disappointed?
- Doesn't that guy over there know that tie doesn't match that shirt?
- Why would that lady color and style her hair that way?

So many things to think about when we come to church. Sometimes we focus on things – many times we think about people who are surrounding us. But often we miss what Cornelius noted. Did you see it? Did it leap off the screen for you?

***“...we are all here in the presence of God...”***

When we gather to hear the scripture expounded and sing songs of praise, God is present.

When we gather and pray together, God is here.

When we fellowship with one another, God is in the midst of us.

When we take ourselves (and our families) and drive on to the campus, God is meeting us there!

David J. Williams, in his commentary on Acts says this: “Those who meet in such circumstances do well to remember the company they keep.”

It is not important to remember the preacher and what he is wearing.

It is not important to think about friends we will be meeting at church.

It is not important to wonder who is and who is not present – there will be some here and some who are not (there always is).

What is important is to remember – when we gather, God is here. And He is worth noticing and paying attention to. It is important that we hear HIS WORD; it is important that we sense HIS PRESENCE; it is important that we obey HIS COMMANDS.

Remember God is going to meet us on Sunday – remember Him and join with Him this week!

See you Sunday! Come with me as we go and see God together!