



# SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

## A Royal Waste of Time

*Worship in Community*

## Discussion Points

*January 16, 2022*

### Read/Reflect

1. Read Ephesians 1:3-14. Then read it aloud a second time, because it's a longwinded statement that Paul is making. What is Paul so excited about in this drawn out greeting to the Christians of Ephesus?
2. What phrases in these verses prompt you or even inspire you to praise God?

### Explore

3. How do we belong to God, according to Paul (specifically in verses 3-10)? How does this affect your thinking about your relationship to the church and God? Discuss: 1) We are family because we belong to God; or 2) We belong to God because he made us into his family.
4. How would you rate your priority for worshipping in community (in church)? What impact has the pandemic had on your perspective and behaviour?
5. How does your worship of God change (whether negatively or positively) between personal worship and communal worship?
6. Generally, with what kind of perspective do you go to church on any given Sunday?

<input type="checkbox"/> It makes me feel good.	<input type="checkbox"/> I love the fellowship.
<input type="checkbox"/> I need to be filled up.	<input type="checkbox"/> I guess I should show up.
<input type="checkbox"/> God's majesty is bigger than my individual praise.	<input type="checkbox"/> It's a family meeting.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
7. Discuss: When worship is for our self-gratification it becomes worship of self. When worship is for "the praise of God's glory" it becomes (or needs to be) communal.

### Pray

- ✝ In a group meeting, begin the prayer with each person expressing the splendor and majesty of God, according to Psalm 34:3.
- ✝ Pray for a renewed vision of belonging to God that is more than just "me and Jesus."
- ✝ Pray for the universal church, the big family of God to demonstrate a unity that reflects our gathered worship of a grand and magnificent God.