

1 Corinthians...*To The Church* – The Gathering Part 10 Pastor Ryan White — October 29, 2017

PUTTING DOWN ANCHORS - Two Central Truths to Shape our Worship Services

Anchor #1 - All <u>participate</u> so all might be <u>built up</u>.

• Every member of God's family should participate in the Gathering because it's through all our unique contributions that God will build up his church.

Anchor # 2 - Jesus should always stand at <u>center stage</u>. Never seize the spotlight and <u>distract</u> from him.

• Since our primary goal as God's people is to love God and love others, our participation in the Gathering must be orderly and not distract from the one whom we've come to worship.

STORMY SEAS - Navigating Issues of Gender and Power within the Church

"Every woman who prays and prophesies..." (1 Corinthians 11:5)

• Women, in the family of God, you are far more than an <u>object</u> to drool over. You have dignity and value and the church is <u>less</u> without your active participation and leadership.

"For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man... Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman. For as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God." (1 Corinthians 11:7, 11-12)

• In God's family, we retain our <u>gender distinctions</u>. Equal value doesn't mean our gender identities are erased. Instead we get to live in the <u>full glory</u> of who God created us to be because *"male and female he created us"* (Genesis 1:27).

In a sin-sick world, men and women can distract each other from encountering Jesus. Are you willing to make adjustments so that Jesus might be seen more clearly in our worship gatherings?

