

Composite of Group Report Sheets

Zion Understand Workshop – January 24, 2009

Group I Members: Jason Fremder, Felix Gora, Janet Gora, Vicar Daniel Tews, Rick Weis

I. Why is Inspiring Worship Service's Score 47?

- A. Disruption of service with announcements
- B. Tying service together
 - 1. More about words than tempo
 - 2. Creative ideas
- D. What are we distracting from?
- E. Cliques
- F. Early Service ending

II. Other things we would like to mention from our discussions

- A. Review is needed
- B. Visit other churches and get ideas that should be considered

Group II Members: Matt Blankenship, Peg Fenner, Sally Kressin, Sue Shrey, Harold Wiebe

I. Why is Inspiring Worship Service's Score 47?

- A. Inspiring Worship only declining element since last survey. In past surveys, score was lowest or lower
- B. Pastor
 - a. Different life stage than some, especially young families. Pastor is "empty nester"
 - b. Message sometimes loses focus, too many points
 - c. Additional focus on relevance and length; if not, listener loses focus
- C. Distractions – people moving around, noise, people in and out, Sunday School returns during message
- D. Aesthetics of MMC – not visually pleasing, like a gymnasium, not very warm with white walls and hard flooring
- E. Members sitting in the same spot every week promote cliques

II. Other things we would like to mention from our discussions

- A. We need to return to basics – recommend that people bring their Bibles
- B. Need more individual participation in worship service to improve involvement
- C. Visitor friendly – building structure, name tags, do we have "given?"

Group III Members: Dyann Cooper, Jon Dreier, Don Fechner, Noel Fenner, Chris Graves, Pastor Mike Hanel, Karen Vollbracht

I. Why is Inspiring Worship Service's Score 47?

- A. There is another style of service:
 - in the bulletins
 - how much are they looking?
 - is this obvious to everyone
- B. Music scores very highly in both services
- C. From Pg 15 of handout (current lowest from survey questions: different people delivering messages.
- D. From Pg 15 of handout (Inspiring worship service is the current profile)
- E. Q10 – Sermon speaking to my personal situation
 - Is the word of God explained more fully?
 - Is it tied into something pertaining to current times?
 - Talk, explain, summarize – don't have to wrap it up – let us continue thinking about it and draw our own conclusions
 - What should the message of the day do? -- One clear message; want to have the people leave, thinking, proclaim the law and the gospel, present it in current terms, will it bring up discussion with the family members
 - Crispness (length) of the service -- Time to talk afterwards, extend inspiring worship not only in the sanctuary, but be able to openly talk and meet some of the flock; even with a great message, if there is no time to connect with others after the service about the service, there is no personal connection
- F. Q89 Prepare myself to get ready to worship
 - 1. Some just getting there
 - 2. people's frame of mind – how do you come to get ready for worship
 - 3. Refreshments, time to talk
 - 4. Greeting people, inviting them to Bible Study
- B. Q12 Connecting with God in the worship service
 - 1. Easier for long term/stronger Christians
 - 2. Personal feelings – don't always know the answer, what does God want us to do?
 - 3. Prayer at beginning by lay person, asking God to be present in us – person praying – has more connection for that one person; not a hindrance; personal witness

II. Other things we would like to mention from our discussions

- A. Stop doing, start doing, stay doing – responses from people
 - relating themes to message – stay
 - continue identifying the law and the gospel – stay
 - Variation – doesn't have to be all liturgical – stay
 - Stop service at one-hour – start
 - More things to do on Sunday morning than we have time to do, must choose
 - stop
 - Prayers by individuals, member participation – stay
 - Miss lighting in early service, perception has emotional effect – start
 - Hymn numbers up front
 - Time flow
 - involvement of lay people -- stay, even more, helps you as an individual; more involved, more inspiration
 - Muger and visitation -- stay
- B. The entire morning affects the person's inspiration
- C. God inspired, Holy Spirit led