

## WHY WORSHIP HERE?

**Text: Psalm 79**

**January 23-29, 2010**



### Start It

*(10 minutes)*

**Leader:**

As people begin arriving begin to guide the conversation.

1. What was a high point this last week?
2. What was a low point?



### Share It

*(15 minutes)*

1. Looking back over the highs and lows of last week, how did prayer make a difference?
2. Were you more intentional about the way you prayed and the times you prayed? Did you discover that your prayers were in anyway different?
3. Share a time when you were disciplined by a parent, teacher or a set of circumstances. How did you feel at the time? What do you feel about the situation looking back? What life lessons did you learn?



### Study It

*(20 minutes)*

Turn to Psalm 79

1. To review: from what you heard in the sermon, what were the circumstances behind this Psalm? How would you describe the mood or tone of this Psalm?
2. What exactly does Asaph ask God for in this Psalm?
3. In verse 9, what reason does Asaph give in asking for God's help?
4. What vision for the future does Asaph see in verse 13?

Read Hebrews 12:4-13 and 1 Corinthians 11:31-32

1. What connections might you draw from these verses and Psalm 79



### Video

*(25 minutes)*

1. How does what Scott talked about help you better understand Psalm 79, Hebrews 12 and 1 Corinthians 11?
2. Can you think of a time when you were disciplined by the Lord? What were the circumstances? How did you feel? Did you discover a stern God, or a gracious God? What did you learn from being disciplined?
3. How do we discern when the circumstances in our lives are brought about by our sin, the sin of others or the Lord's discipline? Do we need to discern? What does Psalm 79 teach us about how to respond to the circumstances we face?
4. What difference does it make that God is the "Kingdom, the Power and the Glory forever" and that the veil of the Holy of Holies has been torn in two when we face various circumstances and issues in our lives?
5. Read Hebrews 4:14-16. What encouragement do these verses and Psalm 79 give you about how to approach God?
6. Given all you have talked about during this time together, what encouragement might you receive in the midst of the Lord's discipline?



## Live It

*(10 minutes)*

1. What has the Holy Spirit impressed upon your life given this week's sermon and/or study?
2. How would you respond to someone who says: I feel uncomfortable going to church. I need to dress up in my "Sunday Best" and besides "if God or others knew the real me, I would not be welcome?"
3. How might the place in which we worship, and how we approach worship help or hinder our evangelistic efforts?



## Pray It

*(10 minutes)*

### **Conclude with prayer**

1. Given your present circumstances, might God be getting your attention in some way? How might the group support you in prayer this next week?
2. Leader:
  - a. Have everyone think of one thing for which they are thankful. As you close in prayer begin by going around the circle and have everyone pray out loud for that which they are thankful.
  - b. Then spend a few minutes in silence giving everyone a chance to talk with God about their lives, and the lives of others in the group.
  - c. Close in prayer.