

## Hall Worship Service – “The Big Why”

**Deeper** – Because our people come from a variety of backgrounds and influences, we recognize that people connect more deeply to God and His truth in different environments.

**Wider** – Because of our Lord’s command and the strong Christian tradition to seek ways to effectively reach people for Christ, we want to be innovative in order to reach those who are not being reached.

**Longer** – Because there is a significant church drop out rate after high school graduation and because research has shown that a major contributing factor to this is segregating students from the church as a whole, we are committed to the lasting impact of our student ministries.

### FAQs

#### 1. Isn’t this dividing the church?

The church (as are most churches of any size) is already sub-divided. Students have their own worship services and adults select either the 9:00 or 10:45 service often never interacting with those who attend a different service. The question is not one of sub-dividing or not, but rather *how* we are going to subdivide. The café provides us with a way to sub-divide more strategically. We intend to do periodic “celebration services” (probably on 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday’s) where we will combine the two services.

#### 2. Why are we doing this every week instead of from time to time or seasonally?

The goal of reaching out to those who are not being reached would be difficult to attain unless there was consistency in providing this environment.

#### 3. What about our student ministries?

We are fully committed to having the best possible ministry for our students. The activities and events that currently take place at times other than Sunday will continue and grow. We want students also to experience being a part of the church as a whole. By not segregating our students on Sunday mornings we are providing a way for families to worship together, hear the same teaching and for students to be a part of something bigger than themselves. This is not only beneficial for students but will enrich the worship of our adults and provide an environment and tools for families to grow stronger.

#### 4. Aren’t we just watering down church and caving in to what is trendy and popular?

The truth of God’s Word and the message of the gospel should not and will not be compromised. However, the gospel message has always been contextualized. Paul told us that he would become all things to all men that he might win some. Environments, methods, and ministry strategies evolve and change while the truth remains constant.