

Applying Our Theology – Discussion Questions

1. Why do “Word and Sacrament” so often become either/or emphases in Christian worship practices (e.g., minimal attention given to sacraments by Reformed [Evangelical] Christians and minimal attention given to preaching by Roman Catholic and Orthodox Christians)?
 2. How can a focus on *both* the Word *and* the Sacraments help us to diminish the polarization we’ve experienced in worship?
 3. Agree or disagree: Tradition must shape the congregation’s worship; it is only a question of which tradition and to what extent. It is not possible to have “tradition-free” worship.
 4. How does Lutheran liturgical worship engage and embrace our culture?
 5. How does the presence of a non-Christian guest inform our conduct of Christian worship?
 6. How do we balance the unity of the church and the mission of the church in our adoption and use of adiaphora?
 7. Under what conditions would you
 - a. Consider moderating (suspending or revising) a worship practice out of regard for the concerns of the brothers?
- Or
- b. Give a fellow pastor the benefit of the doubt when trying something new with regard to worship practices?