Foolish Questions about Worship

Dear Mr. Waddey: You quoted these two slogans of the restoration movement in another post: “Do Bible things in Bible ways; call Bible things by Bible names.” And, “Where the Scripture speak we speak; where the Scripture are silent, we are silent.” You state that there are “five items of worship: songs, prayers, gifts, communion, and scripture study.” What scripture names “songs, prayers, gifts, communion, and scripture study” worship? What scripture names worship as “corporate, i.e., congregational?” What scripture names worship as the purpose of the assembly of the “apostolic church?”

Dear Friend Dennis: I am happy to learn that you are reading my postings. Perhaps you could tell me what your congregation does when they assemble? Do they dance, gamble, play games? I think not. Do they sing, pray, give their gifts, commune, and study God’s Word? What do you call it when people assemble in the name of their God and do such things? For some 2,000 years, it has been universally described as worship. Jews worship their way, as do Hindus. We Christians worship as the New Testament of Christ teaches us.

It seems to me you are picking at specks by demanding, “What scripture names ...” God tells us to worship him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). You well know that the New Testament speaks of Christians assembling together (Heb. 10:25), offering up sacrifices of praise (Heb. 13:15), partaking of the communion (Acts 20:7; I Cor. 23-29), praying (Acts 2:23-30), giving our gifts to God (I Cor. 16:1-2), and teaching his word (Acts 20:7). Perhaps you could tell me the verse that mentions the word “the Bible?” I suspect you well know these things. I also am confident that I understand from whence you are coming when you ask such questions. Do you suppose they edify others who might by chance read these lessons? **JHW**