

Bible Study - Why Does God Want His Followers To Attend Church?

Pastor Charles A. Hall – December 12, 2024

Church Attendance: refers to the act of regularly attending religious services at a specific meeting place where there are other believers of the same faith.

In the current state of the church as an institution of Faith, many people no longer see the value of attending church. Many equate this lack of interest more related to the physical attendance of worship service. However, there is still a growing number of people who simply do not see any real value or reward in attending what we call a normal church worship service. Where there is a preacher who teaches and preaches the word of God from the holy bible. The purpose for this bible lesson is to confirm through the word of God, His desire and direction for His creation to attend a spirit led and guided formal worship service. God stated that humanity would perish without the true knowledge of who He is, what He is doing, and what He will do. When the people reject God's knowledge and teaching, they will face destruction. The word of God offers the believer several specific reasons for why God directs His followers to attend church. God further provides specific instructions to the type of church His follower should attend.

- **Hosea 4:6** My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children.

God tells us in His word that we are unable to actually comprehend the word of God without the church, since the preacher who teaches the word of God is assigned by God as the under-Sheppard of the church, not the physical building, but rather the assembly of believers. Where there is a preacher/teacher assigned by God to preach and teach, the word of God and there are followers, this is the church! Believers who are true followers of Jesus Christ need to be in the church so they can receive the spiritual covering that God provide for them through the Holy Spirit via the man of God (the under-shepherd).

- **Romans 10:14-15** (14) How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? (15) And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!
- **1Peter 5:1-5** (1) The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:(2) Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; (3) Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock. (4) And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away. (5) Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.

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- **Acts 20:28** Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

When the church which is a gathering of the followers of Jesus Christ who have like minds and spirits come together there is a strong presence of God through His spirit. And where the presence of God is, there is also power. So, you do not have to be a rocket scientist to know that if you need something from God, it will benefit you to be where the strongest presence of God is found.

- **Matthew 18:20** For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.

An important reason for attending church service is so that we as followers of Jesus Christ can come together to learn how to praise, worship, honor and serve God in a way that is acceptable to him. We know from the word of God that not all worship service is acceptable to God. What we also know from the word of God is where the spirit of the living God is present there is liberty to praise and worship God in spirit and in truth.

- **Isaiah 43:21** This people have I formed for myself; they shall shew forth my praise.
- **John 4:24** God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.
- **John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by Me.
- **Matthew 7:21-23** (21) Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. (22) Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? (23) And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

In conclusion to this lesson, there are many other reasons that the Word of God directs us to attend church:

- **Worship: Acts 2:42**
- **Fellowship: Hebrews 10:25**
- **Encouragement: 1John 4:12**
- **Spiritual Growth: 1Corinthians 12:21-26**
- **To Sharing God Word: Galatians 5:13**
- **A Beacon of Light: Matthew 5:14**
- **Accountability and Guidance: Hebrews 4:13-16**