

## Lesson 4

### Church Attendance

#### Memory verse: Hebrews 10:25 (KJV)

“Not for his sake and the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

Congratulations on your acceptance of Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. Your life will never be the same again (2 Corinthians 5:17). According to the lesson on “The New Person”, you secured a home in heaven because of your faith in Christ.

As wonderful as that promise is, God has a plan and a purpose for your life. Your purpose in this world is to “bring glory” to God through your new life in Christ.

According to Ephesians 3:21 (KJV), God tells us where he receives His glory. Unto him be in the \_\_\_\_\_ by Jesus Christ. Our glorifying God relates to us in many ways, however, your first step to glorifying the Lord is in CHURCH ATTENDANCE.

To see why this step is so critical in the new believer’s life, it is important that we understand the value God places on it. In this study on Church Attendance, you will learn:

1. What the church represents to Jesus Christ
2. The reasons why I should attend
3. The purpose of the church
4. The blessings I received in attending

#### **1. What does the church represent to Jesus Christ?**

The church was established by Jesus Christ as his spiritual home for believers. The reason why the church is so important is because Christ gave His life for it (Ephesians 5:25). In acts 20:28, it says that he purchased it with his blood on the cross.

This is the value God places on the church, but what does it represent that it mean to us as believers? In order to best answer that question, it is helpful to know the different expressions Jesus used for the church, such as:

**The body of Christ** (1 Corinthians 12:12 – 13)

**A fellowship** (Act 2:42)

**The Family Of God**

**A Flock** (John 10:27)

**An assembly** (Hebrews 10:25)

#### **2. Why should I attend?**

Your primary reason for attending churches simply because it is commanded by God space (Hebrews 10:25). If your heart is submitted to God, that's all the reason you need.

The meaning of the different expressions for church tells us why it's important to faithfully assemble. **A Body** cannot function without its members working together. **A Flock** must stay together so they can receive guidance, protection, and nurse than from their shepherd. **A Fellowship** has no value unless it constitutes are connected together for a purpose. **An Assembly** is ineffective unless people assemble. **A Family** is only as strong as the love and loyalty they express to one another.

A secondary reason for church attendance is because your commitment to this practice can lead to spiritual growth in Christ. Furthermore, though mission of it will lead to spiritual chaos. God knows who we are and what we need to survive spiritually. He knows we need accountability with other believers to strengthening our faith.

### 3. What are the purposes of the church?

Acts 2:42 – 47 (KJV) give us some of the purposes of the church:

a. **BIBLE Teaching**

“and they can take you steadfastly in the apostles \_\_\_\_\_ “ (vs. 42)

The teaching of God's word was a major importance in the church. Be sure to find a Sunday school class that you can attend. The Bible is always the main textbook used in the church. Everything you learn from God's word will help you mature in Christ. The church was referred to in first Timothy 3:15 space “the pillar and ground of \_\_\_\_\_.”

b. **FELLOWSHIP** “and Fellowship” (vs. 42)

A Christian needs fellowship with other believers.

**God did not make us independent, nor depend it, but interdependent.**

This fellowship is found in the Bible – believing church that provides preaching, teaching, and prayer. Needing to gather will also give you a sense of belonging.

c. **COMMUNION** “and in the breaking of \_\_\_\_\_.” (vs. 42)

The two ordinances of the church are baptism and the Lord's Supper. According to 1Corinthians 11:2 (KJV), it says that we are to “\_\_\_\_\_ the ordinances, as I delivered them unto you.” The Lord's Supper is a form of worshiping God as we remember Christ death on the cross. It is spiritually refreshing to experience it.

d. **PRAYER** “and prayer.”(vs. 42)

Jesus said, “My house shall be called a house of prayer” (Matthew 21:13 KJV)

it is in the prayer meetings of the church where you learn how to pray and experience God.

e. **WORSHIP** “ \_\_\_\_\_ God, and having favor with all the people.” (vs. 47a)

worship may be foreign to you now, but worship is the main activity of Heaven (Revelation 4:10 – 11). God desires the Praises of his people.

f. **GIVING** “and they sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had \_\_\_\_\_.” (vs. 45)

the early church were giving people. They gave because they love the Lord. According to 1 Corinthians 16:2, it says the church assembled on Sundays to bring their ties and offerings to God. The love of Christ is what bonded the church together.

g. **EVANGELISM** “And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.” (vs. 47b)

unbelievers were being converted daily because the church was witnessing and sharing their faith with others.

#### **4. What are the blessings of church attendance?**

Friend, you cannot mature in the Christian life without church attendance. In a great way, your spiritual growth rises and falls on. Make up your mind right now to be faithful to the local church. It is fair you will receive a discipleship, encouragement, and support from its leaders and other believers.

Learn to give God your whole Sunday. After all, it's the "Lord's Day." I will always bless you if you put him first. The best way to start the week is to give God the first day of the week. Every services planned specially for you.

When you belong to a church that is functioning as Jesus intended (with purpose, passion, and power), there is absolutely nothing more exciting and life. No wonder the psalmist said (Psalms 122:21 KJV), "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."

#### **Do you want to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ?**

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**Glorify him by attending:**

- **Bible School**
- **Church Services**
- **Midweek Small Groups**
- **Prayer Meeting**