

Why You Should NEVER Miss Church

Heb 10:24 Let us think about each other and help each other to show love and do good deeds.

Heb 10:25 You should not stay away from the church meetings, as some are doing, but you should meet together and encourage each other. Do this even more as you see the day coming.

Heb 10:26 If we decide to go on sinning after we have learned the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice for sins. (New Century Version)

1. We are commanded by God Himself to be Faithful to Church Services.
 - a. Failure to go to church is disobedience.
 - b. God never commands us to do anything unless it was for our benefit. God is the epitome of UNSELFISH LOVE and is always looking out for our best interest.
 - c. If God demands that we do not miss assembling ourselves together it is only because He knows that failure to do so will be detrimental. It is not because God will “punish us” but because, like disobedience to any law, we will reap the consequences for our failure to adhere to it.
2. You were created for FELLOWSHIP.
 - a. Gen. 2:18-20
 - b. We were created in the image and likeness of the TRIUNE GODHEAD. There has always been fellowship within the Trinity from eternity past.
 - c. We have a God-like and God-given need for fellowship with God and others. There is no such thing as “lone Christianity.”
 - d. A true born again Christian will always desire to have fellowship with other Christians. If not then we must question his or her salvation.
3. We are a BODY, an ECCLESIA; a “called out” people.
 - a. 1 Cor. 12:12-27
 - b. Any member of one’s body that is cut off is no longer able to function. Therefore, if we cut ourselves off from the body of Christ, we will die – John 15:4-6
 - c. The life of Christ is within the corporate body. Do not cut yourself off from the life of Christ by forsaking the body.
4. Church attendance provides opportunity to render service and acts of love toward one another.
 - a. Rom. 12:4-9

- b. It is impossible to render these acts of love and service to fellow Christians if you do not have any intimate relationship, which usually comes from faithfulness to the corporate assembly.
- c. In a corporate setting we are able to allow God to manifest Himself through us to minister to one another using the gifts that He has given us – Col. 3:15-17
- d. *So, brothers and sisters, what should you do? When you meet together, one person has a song, another person has a teaching, another person has a new truth from God, another person speaks in a {different} language, and another person interprets that language. The purpose of all these things should be to help {the church} grow strong.*(1 Cor. 14:26; Easy-to-Read Version)

5. Corporate settings bring greater manifestations of God’s presence and power.

- a. Matt. 18:18-20
- b. Notice that it does not say, “Where ONE or two are gathered together...” ONE cannot “gather together”
- c. God has chosen to extend the manifestations of His presence and power within corporate settings in order to avoid prideful “lone Christianity.” God ensures that we become dependent, not only on Him, but on one another as well.

6. Attending allows one to be fed and taught TRUTH that will assist them in their Christian walk.

- a. Eph. 4:11-16
- b. God places ministry gifts into the body in order to feed and protect you.
- c. One may be able to get “fed” watching many of the anointed men and women of God on television, but the practice of this teaching is almost always impossible apart from being in a corporate setting. Furthermore, if we are disobeying God by forsaking the assembly then any teaching we receive over the airwaves would not work for us.

7. A place for Healing, Deliverance, and other displays of God’s promised power.

- a. James 5:14-16
- b. Notice that in times of sickness you are to call for the *elders of the Church*. These are the church leaders.
- c. As we read through the gospels and many portions of Acts we see that people who needed healing and deliverance or some other miracle often came to the corporate assembly where Jesus was ministering.

8. Attending church regularly allows you to be an example to the unbelievers around you.

- a. Lack of church attendance is a selfish act seen by the unbeliever. Unbelievers do not see a need to have “your God” if you are living no differently than they are.
- b. Even unbelievers know that there is something wrong with a Christianity that does not have any desire to be around other Christians.

9. Attending church regularly helps with accountability.

- a. When we allow ourselves to be accountable to godly leaders, we are less likely to fall into gross negligent sin.
- b. Paul taught that church discipline was to ensure that the sinning one’s soul be saved (1 Cor. 5:1-4)
- c. Leaving a church so that one is not accountable to anyone in order to continue in sinful practices places one in serious danger as they can lose the protection that God renders primarily through the corporate body.