

Why should I go to church?

Many people believe that they are Christians and can worship God anywhere they want and as a result they have no need to be a member of nor attend a local church.

1. What is the church?

Colossians **1:12-19**

Ephesians **5:23-27**

1 Corinthians **12:26-31**

1 Timothy **3:15**

Romans **12:3-5**

1 Corinthians **3:16-17**

The church is not a building but it is the people. If you are a Christian, you are the church. Furthermore, the church is to be the “pillar and ground of the truth”. In other words, the church is God's voice for truth. The church is the body of Christ so we are His representatives and servants.

2. What is the purpose of the church?

Matthew **18:15-17**

James **5:14-15**

Matthew **28:19-20**

Acts **20:27-31**

Ephesians **4:11-15**

2 Timothy **4:2-4**

The church is called to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ and to be used by God to grow and expand His church. We are called to proclaim the full counsel of God and to provide assistance, prayer, and counsel to the people of the church. The church also provides a basis for personal and ecclesiastical discipline.

3. What am I lacking by NOT going to church?

Hebrews **10:23-25**

Ephesians **1:17-19**

2 Timothy **3:16-17**

Psalms **73:12-17**

2 Corinthians **10:4-5**

2 Peter **2:12-22**

Acts **2:41-42**

The first thing you are lacking is being obedient to God. God calls us to gather together for His purpose and His glory. Furthermore without gathering together as the body of Christ, we will be ill equipped to not only defend the faith but to also keep from being led astray by others onto false doctrines.

4. What should I keep in mind about church attendance?

Hebrews **13:17**

Proverbs **11:14**

John **14:15**

Hosea **4:6-7**

The people of God have been called to honor those who are in biblical authority over us and to recognize the sacrifice they are offering up seeing that they bear some of the responsibility for your knowledge and understanding of the scriptures. As we face the challenges of our day we need to be able to gather insight and understanding from others who know and fear the Lord. There is no better place for such counsel than through the people of the church.

