

## What Should You Get out of Church (our assembly)?

### ➤ Intro:

- **Why are you here? Why should you be here? What do you get from being here?**
  - important questions for each person to answer for themselves – want to help you answer
- **this lesson:** What Should You Get out of Church (our assembly)?

### ➤ You have to put something into it, before you can get anything out! – church, assembly

- **Jn. 4:21-24** Samaritan woman at well, **worship in spirit and truth** – heart and mind, according to word
  - **not idle observer, active in worship, active participant**
- - **Heb. 10:22-25** draw near, hold fast confession, stimulate one another, not forsake **assembly**
  - **active toward brethren, others first and self second** – **Phil. 2:3-4**
- - **2 Cor. 13:11-12** **greet one another, holy**, kiss is a cultural expedient
  - **commanded to greet** – **encourage with one-on-one interaction**
  - **must be present, must be engaged** – **address health issues**
  - **be dedicated to putting forth the energy to be engaged during the entire service**
    - **saying: before you can take something out**, you have to put something in – e.g., bank account, marriage, friendship – **before God saved us, He gave Jesus**
  - **self examination**

### ➤ What happens when you don't fulfill your responsibility in the assembly? – **illus. Corinth**

- **1 Cor. 11:17-19** brethren, improper behavior, **assembly for the worse** – **not fulfilling responsibility**
- - **1 Cor. 11:30** many **spiritually dead** – **not fulfill responsibility with LS** – **not worship in spirit**
  - **illus.: Dad, elder, observation, when a person stops going to church**, it is the beginning of the end, soon turn away from God and live in the world – **spiritually dead at assembly, spiritually dead inside**
- **What are some ways we can neglect our responsibility in the assembly? – 1 Cor. 11:17-29, 30**
  - **not attend**, choose to do other things (**illus.: band member, not go to practice, show up at game**)
  - **sleep rather than pay attention** (**illus.: stay out too late, vs. medication or work**)
  - **daydream**, thinking of things other than the things we are doing as a church
  - **play** with friends, talking, passing notes (note: young children), distracting others
  - **distracting behavior that can be avoided:** – **distracts self and others**
    - going to the bathroom and water fountain when not absolutely necessary
    - playing around in the back, rather than returning ASAP
    - joke: I know the tricks because I did some of them when I was child, wrong
- **What are some ways we can prevent negligence?**
  - **realize the importance and seriousness** of assembling with the saints (going to church)
- - **God commands it, you'll be judged** regarding you attendance and worship, your life will be better in every respect – **Ex. 19:10-15, 16-17; 20:18** – **Heb. 10:26-31** – **2 Cor. 5:10**
  - **the church is the temple of God** – **where do you want to be** when the church assemble? – if Jesus returned when the church was assembling, where do you want to be, what do you want to be doing
- **be prepared**
- - **Matt. 25:1-13** parable of the ten virgins – wise prepared, foolish not – **which are you**
  - **rested, lessons prepared, prayed, engaged, plan what you want to accomplish, ready to worship**
- **realize God and Jesus are here** – **where 2 or 3 are gathered**

- What would you do if the president was here?
- Do you do the same, or more, knowing God is here?

➤ **What happens when you fulfill your responsibility when assembling to worship and study?**

- **blessed**

- **Acts 20:35b** “It is more blessed to give than to receive.” (Jesus) – **give to God, brethren**

➤ - **spiritually uplifted, happy, satisfied, enriched – Jn. 4:24**

- **worship God the way He wants** to be worshiped, as He commands, not as men command

- spirit and truth – **cf. Paul in Athens, unknown god**
- proclaiming Christ’s death – LS
- speaking to Him in prayer and song
- admonished and encouraged in song
- learning more about Him and His word
- contributing to the work of the church and need of saints

➤ - **spiritually stimulated and empowered**

- **stimulated to live as a Christian:** motivated, stronger, encouraged – better for being present and participating

- **stronger from spiritual fellowship: - 1 Cor. 15:33** the inverse is true - holy companions encourage good morals

- **stronger (empowered) from study of God’s word: - Rom. 1:16; 1 Th. 2:13; Eph. 3:20**

- - **illus.:** - **Neh. 8:1-3, 4, 5-6, 7-8, 9, 10-12** Israel strengthened, reading of word, weep, rejoice
- **2 Th. 2:10 love the truth – If you love the truth. . . .**

➤ **Summary / Inv.**

- **What is the result of your assembling with the church?**

- **If not the right result, what should you do?**

- **inv.:** saved, added to church, begin receiving these benefits