

WHY ATTEND EVERY SERVICE OF THE CHURCH? **Psalm 122:1**

Introduction:

1. A church bulletin from Augusta, Georgia 30 years ago carried an article entitled “What’s Wrong With Mrs. Morgan?”
 - a. Mrs. Morgan was a faithful member of the church of Christ.
 - b. She had not missed a church service or Bible study in 44 years.
2. The article asked, “What’s wrong with her?”
 - a. Isn’t she ever just too tired to get up on Sunday morning?
 - b. Doesn’t she ever have visitors that she has to take care of?
 - c. Doesn’t she ever have a headache or a cold or a dizzy spell?
 - d. Doesn’t she know that the weather is too cold or too rainy?
 - e. Hasn’t anyone ever slighted her and made her mad?
3. The same article told of an obstetrician in Nashville who had only missed three services in 36 years and they were medical emergencies.
4. An elder in New Orleans was president of a chain of restaurants and an officer in 33 business and civic organizations but never missed a single church service.
5. Patti Page was the most popular female singer in America in the mid- 1950’s.
 - a. Millions watched her weekly Wednesday night TV shows.
 - b. Her parents in OK never saw it because they were in Bible study!
6. Why should one attend every service of the church?

Discussion:

- I. TO OBEY THE LORD’S COMMAND!
 - A. Jesus asked: “But why do you call Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and do not the things I say?” (Luke 6:46).
 - B. We are commanded: “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching” (Heb. 10:25).
 - C. The early Christians “continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42).
- II. TO WORSHIP AND GLORIFY GOD!
 - A. The Psalmist said: “Give unto the Lord the glory due to His

name. Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (Psa. 29:2).

- B. Paul wrote: “Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord, and whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him” (Col. 3:16,17).

III. TO REMEMBER THE DEATH OF CHRIST FOR OUR SINS!

- A. Jesus instituted His Supper as a memorial (Matt. 26:26-28).
- B. We eat and drink “in remembrance of Him” (1 Cor. 11:23-25).
- C. We “proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes” (1 Cor. 11:26).

IV. TO BE INSTRUCTED IN GOD’S WORD!

- A. Christians must “grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Pet. 3:18).
- B. The early Christians “continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine” (Acts 2:42).
- C. “On the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul spoke to them...” (Acts 20:7).

V. TO FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST!

- A. Jesus was faithful to worship in the synagogue every sabbath: “So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read” (Luke 4:16).
- B. Paul wrote: “Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1).
- C. Paul always assembled with the saints on the Lord’s Day (Acts 20:7; 21:4; 28:14).

VI. TO SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

- A. Jesus taught we must put the kingdom (church) ahead of material things: “But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you” (Matt. 6:33).
- B. A cotton farmer in West Tennessee attended every Gospel Meeting in driving distance even during planting and harvest.

VII. TO BE STRENGTHENED BY THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE SAINTS!

- A. Christians need one another.
 - 1. We are all members of one body: “And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. Now you are the body of Christ and members individually” (1 Cor. 12:26,27).
 - 2. “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Gal. 6:2).
- B. A coal is red hot when touched by other coals; when separated it soon grows cold.

VIII. TO SET A GOOD EXAMPLE BEFORE OTHERS!

- A. Paul wrote to Timothy, “Be an example...” (1 Tim. 4:12).
- B. G. K. Wallace became totally deaf but never stopped attending worship. When asked why, he replied, “I want folks to know which side I’m on.”

IX. TO BE PRESENT WITH JESUS!

- A. Jesus promised: “For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them” (Matt. 18:20).
- B. He communes with us each Lord’s Day: “But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father’s kingdom” (Matt. 26:29).

X. TO BE SAFE!

- A. A study revealed the following about fatal accidents:
 - 1. 20 % of all fatal accidents occur in automobiles.
 - 2. 17 % of all fatal accidents occur at home.
 - 3. 14% of all fatal accidents occur on the street.
 - 4. 6% occur in the air, on railroads, or on ships.
 - 5. Only .0001 occur in church.
- B. Where is the safest place to be:
 - 1. When you die?
 - 2. When the Lord comes again?

Conclusion:

- 1. God commanded us to assemble for our own good.
- 2. Those who forsake the assemblies of the saints soon return to the world and are lost.
- 3. Your soul is the most precious thing you have; do not take a chance on its being lost (Matt. 16:26).

