

Why do you go to Church?

The talk is about the reasons for going to church. Church these days means the congregational type church with a Nicolaitan type structure (the ministers rule the laity).

The church of the time after Jesus, was an assembly of Spirit filled people working in unity following the setup Jesus taught them.

The modern church structure occurred as a result of early pagan influence and the Catholic church implementing the structure of man when they inherited the Roman Empire and treated the church as a kingdom and not as Jesus implemented it.

As a reaction to the excesses of the church in the middle ages in regard to spiritual things, The reformation removed the work of The Holy Spirit by removing His work in the church and people were taught that The Holy Spirit was an influence and not a person they could have an intimate relationship with or that He would personally guide you and teach you about Christianity.

So, the modern church is completely different to the church Jesus implemented.

This document deals with the question “why do you go to church” which is the question God told me to write On.

The whole point of Christianity is to follow Jesus and to learn how to do it. If this is not a major objective in going to church then you are misusing the whole point of going to church

What do you expect to get out of church when you go there because that will determine what you take away. If you go there to learn about Christian living and apply what you learn to your life then your Christian life will change. Otherwise, you will just obtain information which will do nothing to help your Christian growth. You may as well go to a social club.

At church you spend time with the ruler of the universe. Are you grateful to be in His presence and also that He listens to you? Or that He relates to you as His child and to Jesus as a stepbrother or stepsister to you. Or do you go there to talk to people and are not concerned about being in the presence of God.

So, do you go there to meet God or to meet people. And if you go there to meet God, is it the only time in the week that you do this.

So, ask yourself. Why do you go to church?

Is it to meet with God and learn what He wants to teach you so you can develop your Christian life more? Or is it basically a social event where you do not think about your close relationship with God but just learn information about Him which you can learn by yourself at home.

The Christians lie is the precession of the intimate, personal love relationship you have with The Father and Jesus guided by The Holy Spirit. When you do to church that relationship should still be there and when you attend an assembly it should be approached as meeting with people you love and not just people you know.

Why go to church

In the New Testament there is only one reason given to go to an assembly (an early type church) and that is as follows:

Heb 10:24-25(KJV) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Heb 10:25 Not forsaking 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.

Heb 10:24-25 (LITV) And let us consider one another, to incitement of love and of good works,

Heb 10:25 not forsaking the assembling together of ourselves, as is the custom of some, but exhorting, and by so much more as you see the Day drawing near.

These verses are interesting. Not because of what they say but because of what they do not say.

They do not say to go to church to hear a sermon, sing praises, hold church like activities like evangelistic crusades or concerts and games night to invite the unsaved or to do bible study.

Because everyone there is a step brother or step sister, you meet together to encourage each other to show the Love of God in all you do and to live the Christian life each day doing the work of The Kingdom of God.

Learning about The Bible praying and praising God should be done at home as a family.

The structure of Bishop, and priest is also not in the new Testament books written by an apostle but in the pastoral epistles many scholars believe were also not written by Paul but by someone using his name as a mark of respect.

The offices of the fivefold found in the book of Ephesians is considered not to be written by an apostle and was written using Paul's name as a mark of respect.

The only roles mentioned for an assembly are deacon and spiritual leader.

There were no paid positions in the New Testament for those leading assembly.

Reasons to go to Church

The main reason we go to church is to meet God.

We bring Him Glory and Worship by our going there for this purposes.

We also obey the command to meet and encourage each other and help them as needed.

We do not go to church to learn specifically about how to live as a Christian as that should be our study every day of the week and not just once a week at church. We may learn things about this but it is not our real purposes for going there.

Our real purpose is to spend time with someone we love (The Father and Jesus) in a group situation.

In fact, the sermon should not be that important as we should be studying The Bible ourselves and reading it each night around the family table so that God can individually tell us what we need to learn and do and not rely on someone else to teach us once a week on a subject that might not be relevant to our spiritual needs.

People focus on the church as being the Centre for things like evangelism and ministry when Jesus said to go into all the world and do these things.

In their midst

Matthew 18:20 in various translations:

(BBE) For where two or three are come together in my name, there am I among them.

(CEV) Whenever two or three of you come together in my name, I am there with you.

(ISV) because where two or three have come together in my name, I am there among them."

*(TPT) For wherever two or three come together in honor of my name, I am right there
The word 'midst' means a physical presence amongst them with them!"*

So where two or more are gathered together for the purposes of Jesus and His Kingdom He says He is there amongst them.

Is a denominational or other church service done for the purposes of The Kingdom?

Usually not.

So, when do people meet for the purposes of The Kingdom?

When they do the work of The Kingdom

When churches praise, He is in their praises but that does not mean He is physically in their midst as He can be in their praises because He is mentioned as being the object of them.

So, when is Jesus in your midst?

Ask The Holy Spirit. He will tell you.

Attitudes when attending a church or Christian assembly

Jesus said in Mat 18:20 *"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them. "*

I was sitting on my bed and was surprised when Jesus asked me what attitudes you should have when attending church or a meeting of Christians fellowshiping. I had thought I was not going to write any more for this website so this must be important and was completely unexpected.

Jesus said three things on this subject:

"You must come in a state of holiness meaning you have no unconfessed sins you know of and have forgiven all who have offended you and tried to reconcile to them.

*You must come in an attitude of worship to Me as God so you know your relationship to me
You must come with praise and thankfulness for what I have done for you and others.”*

In other words, you must come to meet Jesus with the right attitudes so that you can relate to Him correctly and have fellowship with Him and the Body and not just come to a social event which is what it becomes if you do not relate to Him correctly.

Without holiness you cannot personally meet God as you are defiled and cannot enter His presence. You can be in a church as it is not The Kingdom of God but you will not be with Jesus in that church or anywhere else.

You must come in an attitude of worship before a Holy God, ruler of all, so that you will worship Him correctly. While you are His step brother, a church service is a formal occasion where you are approaching The King of all as a citizen of His Kingdom. So, you must show the respect due to Him when you are in His presence.

You should show your appreciation to Him for all He has done for you and also declare His greatness to all around as you meet Him.

A problem with many people is they go to church for the activities of the church and not to meet Jesus who is usually watching on the sidelines as they ‘celebrate’ the service about Him and not with Him.

Jesus said 80% of people who call themselves Christians would not go up in the rapture because they knew of Him but did not intimately know Him. Perhaps the way most church services are conducted fuels this wrong attitude of people.

Jesus asks: *‘How do you relate to me when you+ go to church or to a denominational activity?’*

Also

“Do you have these attitudes when you pray to me in private so that you are praying personally to me and not to a Gpd who is at a distance.?”

In Conclusion

Everything we do on earth is a preparation for heaven. Our assemblies should be preparation for the assemblies in heaven, where we will rejoice because of our relationship with God, worship Him and give Him Glory for who He is and joyfully enter into His presence because He is our spiritual Father.

These should be the attitudes we have as we go to church in preparation for expressing them in heaven.

We are told we need to be guided by The Holy Spirit to be a child of God. That would include in assembly worship.

We are told He will lead us into all truth and unless He is guiding us in things God desires us to do for Him then they will not be done the way God desires them done or there will not be a unity of The Holy Spirit which is a mark of a Christian assembly.

