

Don't Take the Bait: Church Attendance Doesn't Matter

Hebrews 10:24-25

Introduction:

- A. The Barna Group conducted a survey a few years ago indicating almost 75% of Americans say they are a Christian, but only about 31% of them attend a worship service on Sunday and that's not even weekly.
- B. David said, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD'" (Psa. 122:1).
- C. This morning, I want us to consider a few reasons why our church attendance matters.

We Are Commanded to Come Together to Worship

- A. The early Christians came together on the first day of every week for the purpose of worship (Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:1-2).
- B. The corporate worship assembly is a vital part of our spiritual lives (Heb. 10:24-25).
- C. Neglecting the assembly is a matter of choosing not to be present when you could be. Notice the Hebrew writer was addressing those who were making a habit of missing or neglecting coming together.

We Demonstrate our Priorities and Allegiance

- A. When we become a Christian, we have new priorities and our top priority should always be the Lord and His church (Col. 3:1-2; Matt. 6:33).
- B. Think about what we are teaching others, including our children, when we choose not to be at worship.
- C. People will know our allegiance is to Jesus, not by the words we speak, but by the lives we live (Matt. 15:7-8).

We Miss Out When We Are Not at Worship

- A. We miss out on growing and maturing our faith (Rom. 10:17; Heb. 5:12-14; 2 Pet. 3:18).
- B. We miss out on surrounding ourselves with like-minded people of faith (I Cor. 15:33).
- C. We miss out on the opportunity to help contribute to the building up of the church (Heb. 10:24).

Conclusion:

- A. When it comes to not attending worship services, there are always a lot of excuses.
- B. We must remember that God does not want our excuses; God wants our hearts.
- C. Brethren, are we helping the church or are we hindering the church by our lack of attendance?