

SERMON NOTES:

Series: Just Call Me Old-Fashioned | Part 1: Christians Should Go to Church Every Sunday (they can)

Newer isn't always better. Change isn't always good.

Just call me old-fashioned, but Christians should go to church every Sunday (they can).

Church attendance and membership in the US are on a sharp decline:

- https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2019/10/17/in-u-s-decline-of-christianity-continues-at-rapid-pace/pf_10-17-19_rdd_update-00-018/
- https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2019/10/17/in-u-s-decline-of-christianity-continues-at-rapid-pace/pf_10-17-19_rdd-update-new3/
- <https://www.pewresearch.org/religion/2019/10/17/in-u-s-decline-of-christianity-continues-at-rapid-pace/>
- <https://research.lifeway.com/2022/02/02/5-current-church-attendance-trends-you-need-to-know/>

Going to church has become the thing we do when we have nothing else better to do.

Do we really need to go to church?

Acts 2:42 (NLT)

⁴²All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT)

²⁴Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

For the early church, community was a lifestyle.

Community was a daily thing.

Acts 2:46 (NLT)

⁴⁶They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—

The people of God should be invested in and treat the community of God as a priority.

People will always find time for what they truly believe is important.

5 PRACTICAL REASONS TO BE AT CHURCH

1. Being at Church keeps us all on the same page and builds a sense of connection and unity.
2. Being at Church keeps us encouraged to and gives us opportunities to BE the Church.

3. Being at Church and being a member is a response to the low-commitment spirit sweeping our culture.
4. We should care about the experience of others when they come to church.
5. Being at Church, among other spiritual disciplines, does help us grow in our relationship with Jesus and one another.

When we make coming together weekly our priority - It is a reflection of three things:

- Our prioritization of and supremacy of Christ in our lives
- Our understanding of our role in building and maintaining healthy Christian Community
- Demonstration of our humility and willingness to serve others and put them first