

Reflecting on Myth #4
“Watching church online is good enough.”
August 8, 2021

Introduction: This week, we close out our series with the following myth: *Watching church online is good enough.* We can debunk this myth using two key teachings of Scripture:

1. The physical gathering of the church is the consistent expectation of the New Testament for believers (Mat. 18:17-20; 1 Cor. 11:33; Heb. 10:25)

2. The “one another” commands of the New Testament are impossible to fulfill from a distance. (John 13:34; Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16; 1 Corinthians 12:25; Galatians 5:13, 6:2)

Conversation Starters:

1. What does a person miss when they attend church online and seldom, if ever, in person?

2. Why do you think God designed the church to be a physical gathering of people?

3. Our study for this week presents five of the "one another" commands in the New Testament. (See below.) Which one of them is the hardest for you? Which comes most naturally?

- Love one another (John 13:34)
- Admonish one another (Rom 15:14; Col 3:16)
- Care for one another (1 Cor 12:25)
- Serve one another (Gal 5:13)
- Bear one another's burdens (Gal 6:2)

4. What makes attending church virtually so attractive to some? How would you approach them in order to encourage them toward coming back to physical attendance?

5. Over the past four weeks, we have debunked four myths (listed below). Which myth are you most likely to believe and why?

- Christianity is about my personal relationship with God, so I don't really need the church
- The key to discovering a good church is finding one that makes you comfortable.
- Church membership is not that important; it is good enough to just attend and never officially join a church.
- Watching church online is good enough.

6. If an acquaintance of yours asks you the following question, how might you respond? "I've noticed you attend church on Sundays. Why is church so important to Christians like you?"