

How To Come To Church

Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 02/20/2022



I. Future Church

Key Truth: _____ **To** _____

II. Participants & Attenders

Expecting Acts 2:42-47

Enthusiastic Hebrews 10:24-25

Empowered Colossians 3:15-17

Point: _____ **Or** _____

III. Co-Laborers

Mid-Week Devotion (Take time this week to pray & respond to the following)

Most people would never attend a birthday party without a gift or show up at a sold-out event without a ticket. The embarrassment and wasted time are just not worth it. Similarly, a sports team-member understands that attending practice and being ready to compete on game day is expected. Obviously, preparation and participation are absolutely essential in countless areas of life.

Church is no different. When you come to church you either come as a participant or an attender. Some people come to church prepared to worship and others come to merely be consumers of religious goods and services. The prepared contribute to the strength of the community. Though attenders make the place seem more full, they contribute comparatively less to the actual health of the church.

You need to prepare to worship. Coming to church unprepared is like arriving empty-handed at a birthday party or forgetting one's jersey, stick, and skates at a hockey match. Participants show up prepared. Attenders just show up and expect to be entertained and informed.

How do you come to church? Do you arrive expecting to encounter God, enthusiastic about His presence, and empowered by His Spirit? Do you understand and act on the reality that your preparation to worship will directly affect the well-being of your Christian brothers and sisters? Do you see your unique, God-ordained gifts, abilities, and characteristics as a vital contribution to the local church body? Is it possible you could come to church better prepared to worship and serve as a co-laborer with Christ and His people?

Prayerfully reflect on your typical Saturday night and Sunday morning routine. Ask God to reveal any aspects of it that are hindering or hampering your preparedness for celebrating the Lord's Day with your church family. Commit to make corrections in accordance with what God reveals. Express thanksgiving to God for the opportunity to worship.