

SERMON NOTES

Shades Of Grey - The Church is Irrelevant

Founding Pastor Mike Schaefer - February 5, 2023

“... we conclude that religion and spirituality are exceptionally powerful, integral, and indispensable resources in substance abuse prevention and recovery; faith plays a key role in treating the mind, body, and spirit. Therefore, the decline in religious affiliation in the USA is a **national health concern.**”

National Institute of Health - National Library of Medicine
Belief, Behavior, and Belonging: How Faith is Indispensable in Preventing and Recovering
from Substance Abuse.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6759672/>

Ten Benefits of Attending Church

- 1. Church provides social support.** (Life Groups)
Galatians 3:28
- 2. Church attenders are healthier.**
3 John 1:2
- 3. Church provides an opportunity to connect with God.**
Psalm 65:4
- 4. Church helps strengthen marriages.**
Ephesians 5:22-33
- 5. Church helps us to give back.** (Generosity)
Hebrews 13:16, Acts 20:35
- 6. Church reminds us of our identity.** (In Christ & His body.)
1 Corinthians 12:27, 2 Corinthians 5:17
- 7. Church goes suffer less depression.**
Philippians 4:7
- 8. Church reminds us of a deeper meaning of Christ.**
Ecclesiastes 12:13
- 9. Church promotes accountability and routine.**
Ephesians 5:15, 16
- 10. Helps us learn about forgiveness.**
Colossians 3:13

See also: Deut. 30:11-20, John 10:10, Matt. 16:15-20

Meditation Verse

All this energy issues from Christ: God raised him from death and set him on a throne in deep heaven, in charge of running the universe, everything from galaxies to governments, no name and no power exempt from his rule. And not just for the time being, but forever. He is in charge of it all, has the final word on everything. At the center of all this, Christ rules the church. The church, you see, is not peripheral to the world; the world is peripheral to the church. The church is Christ's body, in which he speaks and acts, by which he fills everything with his presence.

Ephesians 1:20-23 The Message

ANNOUNCEMENTS

XO MARRIAGE CONFERENCE

February 10 -11

\$25 per couple. Register online at churchaliveabq.com.



TONY COOKE

March 5 - 10am & 6:30 pm

Save the date and plan to attend.

Join us next week as we continue our series "Shades of Grey".