

How Do We Come to Church?

What is in Will Come Out

Ephesians 5:14 Wherefore he saith, Awake thou that sleepest, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light.

15 See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise,

16 Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

17 Wherefore be ye not unwise but understanding what the will of the Lord is.

18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

19 Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;

20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

21 Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.

- **I love Church!**

- **More specifically I love my church family!**
- **Over the years it has been this church where I have learned how better to walk with the Lord!**
- **I believe this passage to be crucial...**
 - **to how the church body comes together**
 - **Why we come together**
 - **And to what end we come together**
- **So, how do come together?**
- **Why do we come together?**
- **To what End do we come together?**

- **Come to Church Wide Awake!**

- When you come to church has your flesh and it's deeds been mortified?
- This is a choice of rejecting our darkness and turning to our Light!
- Why is this so important?
 - We have to see where we are going (walking circumspectly)
 - When we walk in darkness we won't get where we are going
- When should we be spiritually awake?
 - Now! No other time is acceptable
 - This is wisdom, so to do the opposite is...well foolish
- It is God's Will for us to be **Awake** to righteousness
- It is God's Will for us to be **Alert** to the present
- It is God's Will for us to be **Aware** of His presence
- Why? So when we come together we are filled with Him and nothing else
- **So, We Should...**
- **Come to church with a clear heart and mind**
 - What are we doing in excess?
 - This is not just about drunkenness,
 - but about being filled with things that don't leave room or more importantly make room for the Holy Spirit
 - If we spend all week filling ourselves with fleshly desires and vices how can we come ready to learn to be closer to Christ?
- **Come to Church filled with the Spirit**
 - It is not the pastor's, deacons, Sunday school teachers nor anyone else's job to fill the Christian with the Holy Spirit

- If we cannot come filled with the Spirit to the house of God, how can we say we are part of the House of God?
- **Come to Church Devoted to Christ before church so you can be devoted to Christ IN Church**
 - Speak to yourself in the Word and in Music that Glorifies Christ
 - If you're not praising God Monday thru Saturday...
 - What's your playlist?
 - How much is God glorified by your personal praise
 - If Sunday morning is the only time you're hearing the Word of God and singing the praises of God you are an emaciated, malnourished, & depleted child of God.
 - God is not starving you, you just don't want to take in Christ
 - There is nothing but the blood and body at the Lord's table
 - Imagine if we all came to church filled with the praises of God from thru the week...what would our praise time look and sound like???
- **Come to Church ready to give Thanks to God for ALL things that the Godhead has given, done, been to you**
 - What a thought...if God's people would come together with hearts filled with gratitude!!!
 - Imagine a church auditorium filled with people filled with Christ!
- **Come to church ready to serve, not be served**
 - If you're trip to church is about you it will not be a satisfying trip
 - We are here to put someone else first for the cause of Christ
 - Remember Christ knelt down and served His disciples as He washed their feet

- This was in context of fellowship together...we must be there to serve
- If we cannot come together submitting ourselves to serve each other...
 - We grieve the Holy Spirit
 - This then affects our walk with Him
 - We must AWAKE to righteousness and start the process over

- **So, how do come together?**

- **Awake**
- **Empty of Self**
- **Filled with the Spirit**

- **Why do we come together?**

- **To Praise and Worship Christ**
- **To Show Gratitude to Christ**
- **To Serve One Another**

- **To what End do we come together?**

- **So that God & Christ are glorified**
- **So we can be filled with**
 - **Praise**
 - **Passages**
 - **Power**
- **So we are strengthened to live awake, empty of self, and filled with the Spirit showing the present World who Christ is!**