

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 771

December 6, 2009

Do I Have To Go To Church?

Have you ever had questions like that asked to you? Through the years, I have often had people ask the question, “Do I have to go to all the services of the church? I mean, what if I don’t go on Sunday night or Wednesday night? Do I have to go at those times if I faithfully go Sunday morning?” Well, allow me to answer that question with a few questions of my own.

- Do you have to hug and kiss your little children?
- Do you have to remember your wife’s birthday?
- Do you have to call home when you’re late coming home from work?
- Do you have to buy Christmas presents for your family?
- Do you have to attend ball games and band functions in which your children are involved?
- Do you have to attend the funeral of a close friend or loved one?
- Do you have to say, “I love you” when you love someone?

I think you see my point. Sometimes we are guilty of asking

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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

the wrong questions. There are some things in life that we don’t “have” to do, but we “get” to do. In fact, even asking the question, “Do I have to...” is terribly inappropriate.

I can think of few things that are more frustrating to a teacher than to be teaching your heart out, then have a student raise their hand and ask, “Is this going to be on the test?” The motive for that question is clear. If the teacher says, “yes,” then the student will take notes and pay attention. However, if the teacher says, “no,” then the student is going to put his pencil down and quit taking notes.

Is that not the very same thing we do to God when we ask, “Do I have to go to church on Sunday night and Wednesday night?” “Do these times count?” “Will I have to answer for them on the final exam?”

Friends, the fellowship to be gained through assembling together with fellow Christians, the increase in knowledge of God’s word and his will for our lives, and the praise, prayers, and adoration we offer up through worship shouldn’t be something that we are “forced” to do, but should be something we “desire” to do.

When our relationship with our God is based on what we “have” to do and what we don’t “have” to do, then we had better take a long hard look at that relationship. Someone who seriously asks the questions I listed above has some serious problems with his relationship to his family. Likewise, someone who asks, “Do I have to attend all the services of the church?” has some relationship problems of his own.

Do you have to attend all the worship services of the church? No, of course not. You don’t have to attend any. God made you a free moral agent to choose for yourself who and what you will love and to whom you show your allegiance. But here’s some of the best news you’ll hear this week! We are privileged to *get to* express to our God just how much we love him, how much we want to learn about his will, and how much we love the brotherhood through the assembling of the local church.

Steve Higginbotham

via South Green Street Church of Christ Weekly Newsletter

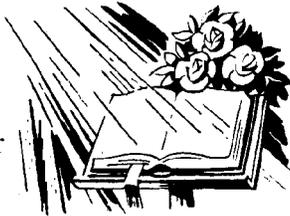
News

—Hallie Davidson is in the Hart County Health Care Center in Horse Cave. Continue to remember **Jean Coffee, Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jimmy Terry**



Six P's of Bible Study

Bible study is vitally important. Man's usefulness in life as well as his happiness in eternity demands an understanding and an obedience to the Word of God. As we consider our study of the Scriptures, we must do it in the following ways:



1. *Periodically* — Read on a regular schedule. (Acts 17:11)
2. *Purposefully* — Study with a definite plan in mind. (II Timothy 2:15)
3. *Pensively* — Read reflectively and thoughtfully. (Psalm 119:97)
4. *Persistently* — Keep at it. Don't grow discouraged. (I Peter 2:2)
5. *Prayerfully* — If any lacks wisdom, let him ask of God. (James 1:5)
6. *Properly* — God's word must be rightly divided, or handled accurately. (II Timothy 2:15)

—Curry St. Church of Christ
West Plains, MO

Sunday, November 29, 2009		
Classes	14	Matthew 9:18-25
Preaching	19	Luke 12:13-26
Contribution	\$381.60	
Evening	8	Ezekiel 10:1-22
Wednesday, December 2, 2009		
Classes	14	Leviticus 2:1-16

Bible Quiz

What was to be offered with every offering to the Lord?

Last Week's Answer— A lock of his head (Ezekiel 8:3)



—We are recording the audio of each service. If anyone is interested in a recording of any service, they are available on cassette or compact disk.



—God's Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)