Why You Should Join the Church.

Acts 13:1-2, 43-44

* Today is culture of consumer – Your way right away!
* A large lack of accountability and responsibility.
* Even Churches make church membership at the small level of accountability.
* I know that some church make Entertainment the more emphasis then the Word of God , because it might scare people away if the Bible is the Emphasis.
* These might work for whatever these organization, but it has nothing to do with the Church.
* So we are suffering from no low level of responsibility and accountably and just come when you want and we scratch your back and you scratch our back.
* The Lingo – This is my church – needs a better definition.
* You don’t come to church, because you are the church/believer – and the church comes here with you.
* Helmers church/believer assembles here - God has made us the church and has called us out to fellowship with God and we are this church – The Local Church – The Universal Church.
* You are this church because you made the common confession that Believe that Jesus died for your sins and The Father has redeemed you in the Blood of Jesus.
* As the church you can sincerely say that I have:
* Personally repented and placed my faith in Jesus Christ.
* The pastor doesn’t minister at the church, He ministers to the church!
* You are this church – you don’t go to church.
* 1 cor 1 – The Bible lays this out in simple terms –
* In God then you are saved and then you will gather in a local group of Believers .
* Jesus is Building His Church/Believers – Act 20:28 –
* Rev ch 2-3 – letters to all the believers – to the churches and their pastors and elders –
* Then we see that God has pastors and elders watching over the souls of the believers –
* This is why Letters of commenatons where used so belivers can know if they are safe and real. 2 Cor 3:1
* God is adding Believers to His Body and the local Church will keep track of the new Believers –
* Heb. 13:17 “Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.
* God is adding – The church – And The local Shepherds were account to the flock – not just the visiting sheep that goes to all the church –
* To be a good shepherd I need to know who am I responsible for.
* We need to count them and get track of them.
* Acts 5:14 - - They knew their names and familes and all about them.
* God gave the gathering of believers these reasons to join together in the local church -
* They say “I want to part of the church- I want to responsible, I want to be a part, I want to be accountable, I want to care for , I want to be nurtured, taught, disciple, loved, forgiven, I want to be what Christ wants me to be,
* The church is not this today – this is sad and wrong.
* We need to be faithful to be in the Lord and in the Local church
* We need to be known as– committed, devoted, responsible and accountable believers to Jesus!
* **Point #1this is a spiritual issue**
* Why will we not say? -I want to be known, loved, taught, respected, helped, and ministered to, under the leadership, protected, care and love of this congregation of assembled believers?
* What noble and spiritual reasons can we come up with to not want this?
* Some will say “ that church is serious and I am comfortable with a distance – this is a spiritual issue –
* we don’t have a good reasons to not do this!
* Hebrews 10:24-25 - God doesn’t want us to leave out the encourage and growth in the Lord – sharpening each other in the lord – this is a spiritual issue!
* You are redeemed – acts 20 – God places you in the Body of Christ – why are you resisting to belong to the church – it’s a spiritual issue
* **#2 – it’s a fellowship issue – I cor. 1 9 , 1 john 3:6-7 ,**
* we have a partnership in God together– we are we strive together for the faith – phil 1:27 – standing firm in one Spirit in the gospel –
* we are not strong in isolation – we are strong in unity -
* The Bible mentions – one another
* 1Jo 4:7 - Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.
* this is real fellowship – fellowship is sharing common life and sharing life in common, mutually ministering to one another – not eating cookies and eating food.
* It’s the caring, bearing burdens , praying , enriching , gal 6 the law of love –
* **#3 it’s an authority issue –**
* We are under authority - we are under Christ authority – who tells you what to do?
* Who is holding you accountable?
* We need someone to bring the Word of God and bring the meaning to you – we need to know the truth of God’s Word.
* we need a whole Theology –
* Some say – “for them the Bible isn’t really clear and understanding” –
* we need a whole constant and sound theology and we are not going to get this from bouncing from speaker to speaker
* This is a truth issue –
* A lady was looking for a church and asked what should I look for? – Someone told her, look for place that is caring, sharing, and willing to listen. Someone said “you get that from a bar, AA meeting , or weight watchers.
* That’s not a church – there is only one question to ask about the church?
* Jesus rebuked the people acting religious in Mark 7:13 “ Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition, which ye have delivered: and many such like things do ye”.
* What do you do with the Word of God?
* Our life is built on the Word of God.
* Act 6:7 “And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith
* And I get that some don’t want that! – We Preach the Word of God. Not a social club. Or a cruise ship.
* **#4 it’s a mistering issues –**
* We are all given gifts from God –
* We are have some Holy Spirit gifts to minister to someone else –
* God is building His church through you - EPh. 4 v11
* You minster to others and you have a responsibility to let God do His work in You by the Holy Spirit.
* 1 cor 12 - God gives us Serving gifts and speaking gifts or a blending of the two.
* **#5 it’s a evangelism issue**
* What do we have to say to the lost?
* A young man living in the world will always meet a Christian to help when hard times came. – later in life that young man gave his because of the Love of Jesus that was seen in the Believers.
* Love others for Jesus –
* You are this church
* I pray you will be in a place where God can bless.
* We need you and you need us!