

Do I Have to Go to Church?

Through the years, I have often had people ask me the question, “Do I have to go to all of the services of the church? I mean, what if I don’t go on Wednesday night?” 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 the point. Sometimes we are guilty of asking 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. When my relationship with God is based on what I have to do and what I don’t have to do, then I had better take a long hard look at that relationship. —Steve Higginbotham “If ye love me, keep my commands.”

The Bible— Short and Sweet

The Bible is divided into two main parts. The Old Testament was God’s will primarily to the Jewish nation. Its requirements were binding until the covenant of Christ became effective (Colossians 2:14). The New Testament is God’s will through Christ to all men living today. The Old and the New Testament were written by men who were inspired by the Spirit of God (2 Timothy 3:16).

The New Testament was given through Christ (Hebrews 1:1-2). We need knowledge of the Old Testament to understand many things in the New Testament, but it is to the New Testament that we must go to learn the way of salvation and the duty of the Christian (Galatians 3:24).

Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, the first four books of the New Testament, are designed to present the evidences, “that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through His name” (John 20:31).

Acts of Apostles, the fifth book, tells one who believes in Jesus how to become a Christian. It answers the question: “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” (Acts 16:31).

Romans to Jude are letters telling Christians how to live the Christian life and to conduct the church’s work and worship.

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Prayers and Concerns

- ◆ Paul Wade had extensive testing on the tumor in his ear this week. He will have surgery at the end of October. Thankfully there was no sign of cancer.
- ◆ Stetson Pleasant had to have an appendectomy last Monday in Oklahoma City.
- ◆ D. E. Pleasant will have a cornea transplant tomorrow.
- ◆ Services for Jack Moyers will be Saturday, September 19 at 10:45 a.m. at the church building with lunch to follow.
- ◆ Remember those with health issues—D. E. Pleasant, Dorlene and Larry Butler, Aleta Collins, Vernon James, Mary Morrison, Ruth Strain, Steve and Diane Siebels, Bob Robbins.
- ◆ All those battling cancer—Lisa Langston, Kay Schneider, Tiffany Pleasant, Amy Myers, Don Luna, Jim Kirkland, Wayman King, Donna Shipley, Elaine Hunter (Larry’s sister), Dawn (Chris Lemburg’s sister), Lionel Daugherty, Jana Crisp, Richard Blackburn, Jenny James, Debbie Eslinger, Sharon Fox, Bill Agee, Joy Cutbirth.
- ◆ GHCC: Virginia Hamblen, Bonnie Ebrite, Delphia Holmes. Clifford Lansdown at Hiram Shaddox; Wilbern Uchtman, Brook Haven.

Blessings

- ◆ Tiffany Pleasant’s scan showed no cancer!

Congratulations to Rebecca and Cayce Gosdin on the birth of Henry Atlas Gosdin Friday morning. He was 8 lb. 14 oz. and 21 inches. He had some fluid in his lungs so he was admitted to NICU for observation.



Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Birthdays		Anniversaries	
9-10	Leon Beard	9-2	Halbert and Vicki Smith
9-22	Rebecca Gosdin	9-24	Tristan and Megan Goodman
9-18	Steve Siebels	9-26	Vernon and Barbara James
9-26	Tiffany Pleasant		

Vicki is serving spaghetti with meat sauce, sides, and dessert for our Wednesday night fellowship meal at 6 p.m.

Date	Event	Details
Wednesday Night 7 p.m.	Adult classes will meet together	Starting a study in Genesis—please join us
Sep. 12-13, 7 p.m.	Smith Chapel Gospel Meeting	Bob Hampton, speaker
Sat. Sep. 13, 10 a.m.	Ladies' Prayer Brunch	Clear Springs Church at Dawt
Sat. Sep. 19, 10:45	Jack Moyer's Service	Here with military honors. Lunch to follow.

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Revelation, the last book in the Bible, tells the faithful Christian about his future home in a "new heaven and a new earth." In order to get to heaven, we must do what God says for us to do (Hebrews 5:8-9).

The Bible is our "map," showing the way to heaven. Let's follow it closely, speaking where the Bible speaks, and being silent where the Bible is silent (1 Peter 4:11).
—Unknown

August Worship Assignments

Welcome & Shepherd's Prayer

9-7 David Stevens
9-14 Don Luna
9-21 John Abraham
9-28 Mark Lane

Communion & Closing Prayer

Tinker Langston
Don Reynolds
Paul Wade
John Abraham

Song Leader: Titus Smith
Greeters: John and Melinda Abraham

The Family News

September 7, 2025

Gainesville Church of Christ

PO Box 7, 23550 US Hwy. 160, Gainesville, MO 65655
www.gainesvillechurchofchrist.org

A Place to Call Home

We welcome you and are so glad you could worship with us today.

Schedule of Services

Sunday

9:30 a.m. Bible Classes for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Worship Service: ***Relationship through Assembly***

Wednesday

6 p.m. Fellowship Supper

7 p.m. Bible Classes for all ages

Sunday Worship Outline

Welcome and Shepherd's Prayer

Kids Singing up front

#121, *Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing*; #705, *A Common Love*

#364, *Come, Share the Lord*; Communion Service

#718, *We Shall Assemble*

Sermon and Invitation

#924; *Just As I Am*

#744, *God's Family*; Closing Prayer

Offering baskets are located at the back.

We are a community of redeemed sinners who are following Jesus Christ, proclaiming the gospel of grace, loving our Lord and one another.

Elders

Mark Lane 417-679-4835
Don Luna 417-712-1945
David Stevens 417-679-4700
John Abraham 870-421-5632

Deacons

Larry Butler 817-504-1604
Dana Crisp 417-331-5090
James Langston 870-315-4355

Preacher

Halbert Smith 417-257-3880

Ministers: Every Member—Each One of Us