

Reading: Hebrews 10:23-25

Topic: What Your Attendance
At Church Does

INTRODUCTION: In this modern-day world of technology, even _____ attendance is affected by the availability of church on-line, but take a _____ at what the Word of God says about the importance of being there in person.

I. THE NEED OF BEING THERE:

A. Not Virtual:

1. Modern technology through the use of _____ has been able to create virtual experience that can put one in front of a screen or with a headset, and project the individual into a _____ where they are not actually there in person, but do feel like they are present.
2. This technology is designed to give one an experience that they might not be able to _____ in a real life scenario, but one is not in _____ contact with others like being there in person.

B. From The Word of God:

1. The Word of God makes it very _____ that the members of the Body of Christ need to assemble together in _____ and to do it as often as possible. Heb. 10:25
2. The coming together of the members of the Body of Christ forms a unit through _____ the Spirit of God flows to _____ to one another. I Cor. 14:26

II. THE BLESSINGS OF BEING THERE:

A. Encouragement For Myself:

1. As much as private prayer, the reading of God's _____ and devotion to Jesus is important, so also is the necessity of being _____ in person important to other members of Christ's Body.
2. When one is there in person, the Spirit of God _____ from vessel to vessel, and if one's heart and spirit is _____ to receive, strength, peace and joy is received. Mt. 18:20
3. Most of the time, people leave the House of God saying, I was _____ that I came to church today, and I feel so much _____ for being there. Ps. 122:1

B. Encouragement For Others:

1. Many people do not realize just how much encouragement they _____ to others just by showing up to the meeting of the Body of _____, even if they are not in the public ministry. 2 Cor. 7:6,7
2. Some people, whether they realize it or not, are giving encouragement and strength to _____ just by being visibly there in the _____, even if they do not say or do anything openly. I Cor. 16:17,18
3. The elders are especially an encouragement to others as people _____ at them and see ones who kept serving God faithfully through the _____ and just their lives alone give _____ to younger ones who think, "If they can do it, then so can I." Heb. 12:1

C. Encouragement To Leaders & Ministers:

1. God gives leaders and ministers to the _____ for the purpose of building up the Body of Christ and strengthening each member to develop and _____ in the Lord and in turn to minister to others.
Eph. 4:11,12
2. Many people do not realize just how much of an encouragement it is to the _____ or leader to see their faces in the House of the Lord as they come to pray and worship the Lord. 2 Cor. 7:13

3. The minister or leader has worked _____ to prepare a lesson or a message that they have received from God, and they are encouraged when they see people devouring the _____ of God as it is given.

Acts 20:7

IV. WHEN YOU GO TO CHURCH:

A. You Make A Spiritual Statement:

1. When you make the _____ to go to the House of God, you are declaring that God is a priority in your life and that spiritual statement affects your own _____ as well as the people who know you.
2. Going to the House of God also makes a statement to the _____ and his kingdom of darkness that you are a part of the triumphant _____ of the living God and you are in the army to conquer the territory and to _____ down strong holds of the enemy. 2 Cor. 10:4

B. You Set An Example:

1. Your attendance at the House of God sets an example for your _____, your friends and the other brothers and sisters who are in the Body of Christ.
2. Unfortunately, some people have taken a very _____ approach to going to church, acting like it is a take-it-or-leave-it thing, and this sets a very _____ example for children, young people, and new converts who are observing the behavior.

C. You Go To Give As Well As To Receive:

1. Some people develop the attitude that they go to church to have all of their _____ met all of the time, and they complain if all of their needs are not met every _____.
2. This kind of behavior does not generate personal spiritual _____ and in turn it will develop into a chronic spiritual attitude that says, "I am not being _____."
3. When one _____ the concept of the Body of Christ, one comes to the understanding that we are not going to the church just to _____ something, but we are also going to _____ something. I Cor. 14:
4. Things that we have to give: 26
 - a. Time
 - b. Talent
 - c. Treasure
 - d. Worship & Prayer

CONCLUSION: Your attendance and presence in the House of God has a much greater _____ than you may realize, so never let go of your desire to be there.