

THE LIVING ROOM

(First Things First, Pt5)

February 17, 2019 ser3810 Sun E & Sun L

I. THE FIRST 45 MINUTES

We gather for food and fellowship. These times are rich as we converse lightly about light matters and deeply about deep matters. Typically, the men group together with men and the ladies with ladies. LOL! Have no idea why that is. Although, at times the Spirit mixes the men and women, and that becomes fascinating. ☺

II. THE NEXT 20 MINUTES—OUR STUDY

TOPIC: REGULAR CHURCH ATTENDANCE, STEP 5, GUARANTEED CHRISTIAN GROWTH

A. As a believer in Christ, you have become a vital, valuable part of God's family here on earth. Spending time worshipping, fellowshiping and serving together with your brothers and sisters will greatly enhance your walk with your Heavenly Father and your best friend, Jesus.

Further still, regular church attendance is a canopy. When we don't attend church regularly, we walk out from under God's umbrella. Regular church attendance is a key to remaining in the flow of

blessing and it challenges us to be all we can be in Christ. In our study tonight, Step 5 of GCG, we want to explore why Scripture admonishes the Christian to attend Church regularly.

God never asks something of us without cause or reason. Therefore, if God encourages us (actually He commands us) to attend church regularly, then He has done so with a purpose, and for our good.

Since creation, God has responded to man in love. Whether it comes in the form of generous praise or stern discipline, God is working on man's behalf with purpose for His good.

So, God commands regular church attendance as part of His plan to *prosper* us and *assure* us that our future is filled with hope. He doesn't say it will be easy. Certainly, the way of the Cross wasn't easy for Christ, and it isn't always easy for us, the believer. But it is ALWAYS the most rewarding and satisfactory way.

B. *Why did God ask for the Sabbath Day?

[*Go around the circle and ask each person to, in one sentence or two, tell "why?"]

NOTE! New Testament doctrine is always rooted in the Old Testament. [R] So let's begin with the Old Testament reasons why the LORD's Day should be observed.

OLD TESTAMENT REASONS WHY WE SHOULD GIVE GOD THE SABBATH (THE LORD'S DAY).

[Have each person read a verse.]

Gen 2:1-3

1 Thus the heavens and the earth were completed, and all their hosts. 2 By the seventh day God completed His work, which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work, which He had done. 3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work, which God had created and made.

Exodus 20:8-11

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 "Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath of the LORD your God; *in it* you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you. 11 "For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

NOTE! (Fill in the blanks.) The Sabbath acknowledges that God has **p_____** in our lives. And, that He wants to have **f_____ p_____** in our lives. priority; first place

NEW TESTAMENT REASONS WHY WE SHOULD GIVE GOD THE SABBATH (THE LORD'S DAY).

Hebrews 10:23-25

23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; **24** and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, **25** not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

C. Why is regular church attendance important? [Fill in the blanks.]

1. God set apart the S_____ d__ for us to rest and recharge in Him. *Genesis 2:1-2.* Sabbath day

QUESTION: Do YOU have a Sabbath?

2. No man is an i_____. island

Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. ...

[18] But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as He wanted them to be. [19] If they were all one part, where would the body be? [20] As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

1 Cor. 12:17-20

3. It provides f_____ with other believers. fellowship

[16] Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. **Col. 3:16**

4. It helps us **g_____** to be all God created us to be. **grow**

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual act of worship. ... [5] so in Christ we who are many form one body, ... [6] We have different gifts, according to the grace given us ... and each member belongs to all the others.

Romans 12:1-6

5. It provides us a place to **g_____** of ourselves. **give**

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."

Luke 6:38

WHAT ARE THE 3-T'S WE ARE TO GIVE/TITHE?

T_____ time

T_____ talent

T_____ treasure

QUESTION: What do you think hinders, or keeps a person from giving the tithe on the three ts?

Time—

Talent—

Treasure—

You cannot out give God; “whatsoever a man plants that shall he also reap.” *Galatians 6:7*

D. The four benefits of regular church attendance.

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1. We will not waiver in our **f**_____.
2. We will increase in **l**_____
3. We will increase in **g**_____ **d**_____.
4. We will be strengthened through **e**_____.

1. Faith 2. Love 3. Good deeds 4. Encouragement

III. THE 20 MINUTE POWER PUNCH—PRAYER (PRAYING FOR ONE ANOTHER)

IV. INVITATION (ATSL)

Ser3810, ***THE LIVING ROOM*** (*First Things First, Pt5*) 1076 words without Prayer & Invitation.