

## Why We Do What We Do Church Attendance

### Introduction:

- Story of preacher playing golf.
- Talking of those who chose not to attend, not those who cannot attend.
- Can we obey God's commandments by attending only once each week?

- I. Notice some first thoughts about the church and the importance of it.
  - A. Jesus built the church
    1. **Matt. 16:13-19**
    2. **Eph. 2:20** – Christ is the cornerstone
    3. **Acts 4:11**
  - B. He is the head of the church
    1. **Eph. 5:23**
    2. **Col 1:18**
  - C. God has paid a great price for the church.
    1. **Eph. 5:25**
    2. **Acts 20:28**
    3. Example of engagement ring
  - D. Based upon our obedience to the teaching of Jesus, we are added to that church.
    1. **Acts 2:47**
    2. **Acts 5:14**
  - E. We can easily see how important the church must be because of all these things.
  
- II. Example of the first century church.
  - A. The early church meet often.
    1. **Acts 2:42-47**
    2. **Acts 20:7** – Lord's Supper, Preaching
    3. **I Cor. 16:1-2** – Collection
  - B. The early church grew in their faith.
    1. Growing must also take place on our own, however we do grow when we come here.
    2. **I Pet. 2:1-3**
    3. **II Pet. 3:18**
    4. **II Pet. 1:5-11**
  
- III. We are commanded to not forsake the assembly (**Heb. 10:24-25**).
  - A. Meaning of Heb. 10:25
    1. Forsake = "to leave behind, to desert"
    2. Assembling = "a complete collection, especially a Christian meeting"
  - B. Attending worship services aids in our doing good.
    1. **Gal. 6:9**

2. James 4:17
- C. We are encouraged by meeting with the church.
  1. We need that encouragement to live the Christian life, knowing that we are not alone.
  2. Acts 13:15
- D. We must be prepared for the Day of Christ's return.
  1. James 5:7-9
  2. Matt. 24:36-44

Conclusion:

God tells us that we need to put Him first in our lives (Matt. 6:33). When we do not meet with the saints, are we putting Him first? We know how important the church is. We know that the apostles meet with the church daily. We know that God tells us that we should not forsake the assembly, or meeting of the saints. Are you a faithful member of that church?