
The Messenger



"... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!" Romans 10:15

**A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at
Westlake church of Christ, 2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri 63385**

Website: westlakechurchofchrist.org

Sunday: AM Bible Study – 9:30 a.m., AM Worship – 10:30 a.m., PM Worship – 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday: PM Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30.

Dear Brother or Sister in Christ:

This letter is written with one expressed hope and that is to encourage you to attend all the worship assemblies of the church here at Westlake. God's word teaches that our assembling together for worship is a matter of great importance. Throughout the New Testament by necessary inference, example, and command, we see the need for Christians to meet together frequently. From the beginning of the church, we see the early Christians "... continuing steadfastly in the apostles teaching and fellowship ..." (Acts 2:42) vs. 46 reads: "And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple ..."

In Hebrews 3:13 we are told, "encourage one another day after day as long as it is still called today lest anyone be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin."

To encourage one another in faithfulness we need to be with one another. Assembling with the saints in worship accomplishes this purpose better than any other means.

In like manner we are told in Hebrews 10:24-25 "to consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another ..."

The serious consequences of forsaking the assembly (which indicates a forsaking of Christ), are seen in Hebrew 10:26-27 – "For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a certain terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries."

When one forsakes the assembly (a willful sin), he is not simply rejecting the church or his brethren he is rejecting Christ and his sacrifice – his only means of hope!

The church here is working hard to worship according to the spirit and truth Christ commanded, and to make all things conducive to worship and edification. We have very able Bible class teachers which all work hard both in preparation and teaching so that your spiritual growth may be the outcome. If you have children, the need for regular attendance and participation in Bible study is even greater.

Sometime ago I received a bulletin from the Caprock church in Lubbock, Texas. The editor of the bulletin made note of a survey that had been taken in reference to Bible class attendance. According to the survey, if parents and children regularly attend the Bible studies offered, 2 out of 3 children will end up converted. If they do not regularly attend only 1 out of 343 children will later be converted. You read it right mom and dad, 1 out of 343!!! ARE WE REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THEIR SOULS?

The facts are too staggering to ignore. Please do not neglect the nourishment such Bible studies are to your soul and take a gamble on the souls of your children. Even preschool children profit greatly from regular attendance in Bible class. Child psychologists have long told us that many basic character traits are established by age three. We need to be molding that little mind very early to serve the Lord.

Whether we do or do not have children we all need the nourishment such Bible studies provide. Consider the following questions:

1. If everyone followed your example what condition would the church be in? (Titus 2:10; Matthew 5:16)
2. Would it not benefit you to assemble with other Christians at every opportunity? (Hebrews 3:13; 10:24-25)
3. When your children grow up, do you want them to be regular in attendance at all the services of the church?
4. If your children follow your example how often will they come in the future?
5. What did Jesus mean when Jesus said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness?"
6. There are 168 hours in a week. How many of those hours do you spend in worship to God each week? (I Corinthians 15:58)
7. Did you know that those who faithfully attend every period of study and worship have as many children as others, work just as hard and have as many friends and social obligations?

Dear Christian:

Please consider these things with an honest heart and with eternity in view. Assembling together is a very important part of God's plan in helping us to be saved and remain saved.

Yours for The Master,
Dempsey Collins

News and Notes:

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

"...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much."
- James 5:16