

Series: Foundational Truth - (8/21/17)

Title: The Sanctuary

Text: 1 Tim 3:15 What is the Church?

We believe that Jesus Christ established His church during His ministry on earth and that it is always a local, visible assembly of scripturally baptized believers in covenant relationship to carry out the Commission of the Lord Jesus Christ, and each church is an independent, self-governing body, and no other ecclesiastical body may exercise authority over it. We believe that Jesus Christ gave the Great Commission to the New Testament churches only, and that He promised the perpetuity of His churches.

We believe that there are two pictorial ordinances in the Lord's churches: Baptism and the Lord's Supper. Scriptural baptism is the immersion of penitent believers in water, administered by the authority of a New Testament church in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Lord's Supper is a memorial ordinance, restricted to the members of the church observing the ordinance.

We believe that there are two divinely appointed offices in a church, pastors and deacons, to be filled by men whose qualifications are set forth in Titus and 1 Timothy.

We believe that all associations, fellowships, and committees are, and properly should be, servants of, and under control of the churches.

We believe in freedom of worship without interference from the government and affirm our belief in civil obedience, unless the laws and regulations of civil government run contrary to the Holy Scriptures

What is it made up of? 1 Cor 12:28 First the Apostles.

Eph 2:19-22 Fitly Framed - Cohesive

1Cor 12:12-27 Every Church Member Matters

Illus: *God puts people into the church as He sees fit.*

What is it's purpose?

1 Tim 3:15 *Pillar and Ground of the Truth!*

Jn 4:23-24 *Worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.*

Matt 28:19-20 *The Great 3 fold Commission!*

Everything we do must work toward fulfilling these.

Paved Parking, Nursery, Preaching, Bible Teaching

Advertising, Soul Wining, Conferences

All of these are to reaching the lost, and equipping the saints

Why is Church so Important?

It's a Command! (Heb 10:25)

We need it! (Heb 10:24) to encourage us!

(Prov 27:17) *Iron Sharpeneth Iron*

(2 Tim 2:2) To teach us!

(1 Tim 5:20) To correct us!

(Rom 10:17) Our Faith Grows!

(1 Cor 1:21) People get saved!

7 sins of Unfaithfulness:

1. Fail to Bring God Glory-(Eph 3:21)

2. Fail to Give God Praise-(Ps 5:7; Jn 4:23-24)

3. Fail to Bring God His Tithes, which is robbery (1 Co 16:2)

4. Fail to Worship God by Obeying the command to Assemble: (Heb 10:25)

5. Fail to Encourage, exhort others to love and good works: (Heb 10:24)

6. Fail to raise our children in the nurture & admonition: (Eph 6:4)
7. We Grieve the Holy Spirit: (Eph 4:30)

So How Do We Go To Church? We Have To OWN IT!
 ITS NOT HARD! We DO WHAT WE WANT TO DO!
 Maybe this will be helpful!

- I. **Start off Right!** Start Saturday Night!
 - a. Set out your Clothes Ex 19:10
 - b. Plan Lunch – Ecc 9:7, 1 Cor 10:31
 - c. Take Baths – 18 times the children of Israel are commanded to bathe before worship.
 - d. Devotions – Get up early and seek the Lord (PS 57:8-)
- II. **Show up Right!** *Illus: Who is it that doesn't want you to go to church? Is that feeling from God? NO!*
 - a. *Who wins if you don't! Whose kingdom is benefited?*
 - b. **Show UP!** (Jn 20:24-25) Thomas missed Jesus and the Blessing Vs 22 *He breathed on them!*
 - c. (Eph 2:20-22) The building of God is incomplete w/o you there!
 - d. (Ps 63:1) **Come hungry**
 - e. **Arrive Early:** Pr 8:17, Jesus Showed up early (Jn 8:1-2) The Apostles showed up early Acts 5:19-21
- III. **Behave Right!** (I Tim 3:15)
 - a. **Smile** – (Prov 27:17) *Illus: Fuss all the way to church, then paint on a fake smile.*
 - b. **Friendly** – (Prov 18:24) *WARM WANTED WELCOME*
 - c. **Shake Hands** – (Gal 2:9)
 - d. **Sit Down Front** –
 - e. **Tithe** – (Mal 3:10; 1 Cor 16:2) *SIGN OF WORSHIP!*

- f. **Sing Out** - (Psa 9:11) (Psa 30:4) (Ps 47:6-7) (Ps 59:16-17) (Ps 81:1) *It Prepares the Heart for the Message! Gonna in Heaven*
- g. **INTERACT WITH the Preacher!**
 - i. **Say Amen** – Duet 27: 14-26 Ps 106:48 Ps 107:1-2
 - ii. **Hallelujah**-an expression of Joy!
 - iii. **Give Testimony**-
- h. Water and Fodder before, between, and after Services.

IV.Finish Right!

- a. Start to the Altar on the 1st verse.
 - i. Don't be a book end!
 - ii. Someone is waiting for you to step out.
 - iii. The Word was preached, God should have spoken to you. If not, go to the altar and find out why not! 1 Pet 5:6-7
- b. Don't leave during the invitation. Distracts attention from the Holy Ghost.
- c. **Leave Right!** Leave planning to return at the next service. Heb 10:24-25 - 3 to Thrive
- d. God made the church because we need it. *Illus: If we willingly stay home, we are not right with God!*

During the Week, don't listen to the Blasphemers that bad mouth God's House, God's People, God's Man or God's Word!