

# The Purpose of the Church

A weekly devotional message for the family.

## **The Purpose of the Church**

A special place for the name of God.

“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven and heaven of heavens cannot contain thee; how much less this house that I have builded? Yet have thou respect unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplication, O Lord my God, to hearken unto the cry and to the prayer, which thy servant prayeth before thee to day: That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, even toward the place of which thou hast said, My name shall be there: that thou mayest hearken unto the prayer which thy servant shall make toward this place. And hearken thou to the supplication of thy servant, and of thy people, when they shall pray toward this place: and hear thou in heaven thy dwelling place: and when thou hearest, forgive” )I Kings 8:27-30(. King Solomon knew that the building that he built could not house all of God, for God is Omnipresent. The purpose of the building was a place to put the name of God; so, the people would have a place to go to and call out the name of the Lord.

## **The Church – A Place For Worship**

Psa 134:1-2 “Behold, bless ye the Lord, all ye servants of the Lord, which by night stand in the house of the Lord. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary, and bless the Lord”

Isa 56:7 “Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices shall be accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people.”

Luke 24:53 “And were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.”

John 4:23 “But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.”

The number one reason why we go to church is to worship the Lord. The Lord desires our worship, and He is looking for a people who will come to church; and worship Him in spirit and in truth.

## **The Church – A Place To Hear God’s Word**

Psa 40:9 “I have preached righteousness in the great congregation: lo, I have not refrained my lips, O Lord, thou knowest.”

Acts 2:42 “And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Acts 5:42 “And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”

Rom 10:17 “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”  
The church is a place to come and hear the word of God. As we hear the word of God, we are strengthened in our faith.

### **The Church – A Place To Draw Closer To God**

Psa 73:28 “But it is good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.”

Psa 145:18 “The Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.”

James 4:8 “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.”

It is good to draw close to the Lord. As we draw close to Him, and call upon Him in truth, then He is near. That is why we come to church, to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth; and to hear His holy word. As we worship Him, and apply His word to our lives; we then become cleaned by our obedience to the word. As we do this, we are drawing closer to the Lord.

### **The Church – A Place For Salvation**

Acts 2:47 “Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

Isa 45:21-22 “Tell ye, and bring them near; yea, let them take counsel together: who hath declared this from ancient time? who hath told it from that time? have not I the Lord? and there is no God else beside me; a just God and a Saviour; there is none beside me. Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else.”

When we come to church to worship the Lord and hear His holy word, then we are looking to Him. As we look to the Lord, we are looking to the Savior of our souls. As we look to Him, and call upon Him, then He is there to save us. A church is a place for salvation.

### **The Church – A Place For Miracles**

Mark 16:20 “And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

Acts 2:43 “And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.”

II Cor 3:17 “Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.”

As we pray and preach the word, then the Lord is in our midst; and where the Lord is, there is liberty, healings and miracles.

Let us draw close to the Lord with our worship. Let us draw close to the Lord by being obedient to His word. And as we do this, we will find salvation and miracles. A church is a place for worship, preaching, drawing closer to the Lord, salvation, and miracles. This is what we can expect when we come to church. This is the purpose of the church.