

# What Kind of Place Is The Church?

Jude 20; Hebrews 10:22-25

Outline

## 1. The Church Is A Place Of Blessing!

A. A Relationship With God... Established

B. A Relationship With Others... Enjoyed.

## 2. The Church Is A Place Of Building!

A. A Defensive Faith.

B. A Developed Faith.

## 3. The Church Is A Place Of Bonding!

A. A Supportive Relationship.

B. A Stimulating Relationship.

I once came across an article entitled "*Why Are Fire Trucks Red?*"

"Fire trucks have four wheels and eight firefighters, and four plus eight equals twelve. There are twelve inches in a foot. A foot is a ruler. Queen Elizabeth is a ruler, and the Queen Elizabeth is one the largest ships on the seven seas. Seas have fish. Fish have fins. The Finns fought the Russians. The Russians are red. Fire trucks are always rushin'. Therefore fire trucks are usually red!"

A footnote to this explanation was given:

*"If you think this is wild, you ought to hear some people trying to explain why they are not attending Church on Sunday!"*

The other day I saw a little brochure that said on the cover, "*Why I Never Take a Bath.*" As it turned out, the man who wrote it had some very good reasons for never going near a bathtub or a shower:

1. I was forced to bathe as a child.
2. Those who bathe are hypocrites; they think they're cleaner than anyone else.
3. There are so many different kinds of soap; I can't decide what's best.
4. It's too boring.
5. I wash only on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter
6. The soap makers are only after your money.
7. The last time I bathed, someone was rude to me.
8. I'm too dirty to get clean; I'd clog up the drain.
9. I will bathe only when I find a bathroom that is exactly right for me.
10. I can bathe on the golf course.

**R. A. Torrey**, in his book "*How to Succeed in the Christian Life*" wrote:

*"There is nothing more important in the Christian life than beginning right. If we begin right we can go on right. If we begin wrong the whole life that follows is likely to be wrong."*

Now, people are always finding fault with the church. In fact, there are far too many people who are far too good at pointing out what they think is wrong in the church. Well, unless you haven't figured it out, no local church is perfect. Anytime people are involved in an organization, that organization will be far less than perfect. Therefore, if you are looking for fault, you can be sure that you will find it!

*I think that I shall never see,  
A church that's all it ought to be:  
A church whose members never stray,  
Beyond the strait and narrow way;  
A church that has no empty pews,  
Whose pastor never has the blues,  
A church whose deacons always deak,  
And none is proud, and all are meek;  
Where gossips never peddle lies,  
Or make complaints or criticize;  
Where all are always sweet and kind,  
And all to others' faults are blind.  
Such perfect churches there may be,  
But none of them are known to me.  
But still, we'll work, and pray, and plan  
To make our own the best we can.*

It is possible to be a Christian without going to Church, but it is impossible to be a good Christian, a growing Christian, and a godly Christian.

#### **Being a Christian without going to Church is like:**

- A student who will not go to school.
- A soldier who will not join the army.
- A citizen who will not vote.
- A salesman without customers.
- A seaman without a ship.
- A parent without a family.
- A football player without a team.
- A bee without a hive.

Every Christian should get in Church, join the Church and attend the Church. It is an important and essential part of the Christian life.

In our text, in verse 25, the writer tells us: "*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is...*" Apparently there were some in those days that were taking the matter of Church lightly.

The charge is made in light of several truths. **Three times** he says, "**Let us.**" Notice 3 reasons why we should take the matter of Church serious and why it is an important building block of the faith.