Do I HAVE To Be There???

Regarding church <u>attendance</u>, this writer questions why any faithful child of God would ever ask such a question as "Do I have to be there?" in the first place. Unless there is a <u>compelling reason that prohibits attendance</u>, where else and with whom else would a child of God want to be than with the saints? (cf. Acts 2:42; Romans 12:9-10; Romans 15:30-32).

We have the obligation to submit ourselves to elders in such matters as <u>attendance</u> for the inspired writer of Hebrews 13:17 says:

"Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you."

The elders are charged with the oversight of the local congregation. They have been given the responsibility to "feed the church of God" (Acts 20:28 KJV), and that "feeding" involves providing the necessary teaching to bring them to spiritual maturity (Ephesians 4:11-13). Thus, when the elders set a day and a time for the church to assemble, the church should assemble in order to be spiritually fed.

From the well-known passage of Hebrews 10:23-25 we read:

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and to good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching."

Willful absence from any <u>assembly</u> of the congregation of which we are a member serves to discourage those who do attend. That is why the Hebrew writer said, "And let us consider one another to in order to stir up love and good works."

Let's ask ourselves, "How does my personal, willful absence from any service that I could have attended indicate that I am thinking about anyone but myself?"

Having said that, how does our "staying home" help us get to heaven, which should be our primary goal? In what way does our staying home, when we honestly and truly could have been at the worship service, serve to "stimulate" our brothers and sisters in Christ "to love and good works"?

Philippians 2:3-8 exhorts us to do the following:

"Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross."

After reading and studying the above passages in context, this writer cannot imagine any child of God asking, "Do I have to be there?" Dear fellow saint, can you imagine it?

The FOLLOWER

January 28, 2018

Hear weekly sermons on www.trezevantchurchofchrist.org

IANUARY- BIRTHDAYS: 29- DJ Youman, 30- Edward Ray Ford, 30-Hunter Lindsey

ANNIVERSARIES: 30- Kyle & Ginger Foster

FEBRUARY: 4-Tanner Coleman, 4-Charles Foster, 7-Brittany Morgan

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

We must hear the word of God. Romans 10:17

We must believe the word of God. Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16; Mark 16:15-16

We must repent of our sins. Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

We must confess Christ before men. Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

We must be immersed for the remission of our sins. Acts 2:38; 22:16; I Peter 3:21

We must live faithfully until death. Revelation 2:10; Romans 12:1-2

•THOSE TO SERVE – JANUARY/FEBRUARY: LIST IN FOYER

(Please check for your assignment and PLEASE contact one of the Deacons if you know you are going to be absent on that date).

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- February 4th, 2-3 p.m.: We will be hosting a Bridal Tea for Sara Beth Wright and Blake Mayfield; Registered at Wal Mart AND Bed, Bath & Beyond
- •• Feb. 4th: Super Bowl Party for Youth at Daniel Rogers' house after evening service; Snacks/Drinks requested and can be given to Nick.
- ••February 18th 21st: Winter Meeting with Dorian Flynn (Monthly Fellowship Lunch also on the 18th (Monthly Fellowship Meal will be on Sunday, the 18th)

<u>SHUT-INS /NURSING HOME</u>: Margaret Barlowe, Van Ayer Manor, 640 Hannings Lane, Martin 38327 Martha Nell Reed, Lakeside Retirement Community, 390 Dr. Smith Lane, McKenzie 38201

Elvy Sauls Jr., Life Care of Bruceton, 105 Rowland Ave., Bruceton 38317

PRAYER LIST:: Charlie Wachsmuth; Wanda Smith, Norris & Shan Depriest, Edward & Jean Ford, Kim & Patrick Lindsey have been sick; Mrs. Leona Aden will be going for more tests; Lori's mother, Kafi Greene will be having surgery; Paisley Morgan (Linda Ballentine's grandaughter) will be going for tests; Jimmy McClain Christopher and Kaitlyn Dunavan, Sheila Hargas, Christina Cannon, Margaret Barlowe, Christine Hodgson, Harold Tyler, Demetrius Burnett, Lois Arrington, Doris Haskell, Mary Bryant, Tim Rogers, Harold Hutcherson, Charles Foster, Penny Warren, Vicki Murphy (Lexington), Mike Lane had liver transplant; Ruth Bennett

<u>CANCER</u>: Linda Cherry will be having radiation treatments; Jackie Smith continuing chemo, Ricky Griffin (Dylan Holt's Uncle), Keith Inman. Lynn Harrison, Barry Barber, Carmen Bobbitt McCain, Sue Price; Linda Cherry; Deborah Browning; Rhyan Loos; Hattie Brinkley Berry, Christine Johnson, Jimmy Greene,, Lalanie Murphy, Wanda Barnes

Trezevant church of Christ, 114 Church St., Trezevant, TN 38258, 731-669-3448, Tim Rogers, Minister

Services:

Sunday Morning

Bible Study: 9:00 a.m.

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Evening: 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

Elders:

Dale Aden Cell: 731-415-1161__

David Bryant Cell: 731-418-1311 Home: 731-669-9648 david.bryant25@gmail.com

Steve Foster Cell: 731-225-4395

Deacons:

David BrasherCell: 731-415-0636_

Greg McClainCell: 731-694-0766 Mark Wright Cell: 731-571- 5606

Youth Coordinaator: Nick Bryant 694-2983 MISSIONS: Partners in Africa; West TN Childrens Home

JANUARY 2018

DATES	WEEK OF JAN 7	WEEK OF JAN 14	WEEK OF JAN 21	WEEK OF JAN 28	
PREPARE LORD'S SUPPER	STEVE AND RITA FOSTER	STEVE AND RITA FOSTER	STEVE AND RITA FOSTER	STEVE AND RITA FOSTER	
GREET	THE SMITHS	THE SMITHS	THE SMITHS	THE SMITHS	
POWERPOINT	MARK WRIGHT	MARK WRIGHT	MARK WRIGHT	MARK WRIGHT	
ANNOUNCEMENTS	DALE ADEN	DALE ADEN	DALE ADEN	DALE ADEN	
OPENING PRAYER SUNDAY A.M.	SHERRILL SMITH	GREG MCCLAIN	TIM ROGERS	KEITH PEEVYHOUSE	
LEAD SINGING SUNDAY A.M.	DAVID BRYANT	DAVID BRYANT	DAVID BRYANT	DAVID BRYANT	
PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER	DALE BALLENTINE	DALE BALLENTINE	DALE BALLENTINE	DALE BALLENTINE	
PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER	NICK BRYANT	NICK BRYANT	NICK BRYANT	NICK BRYANT	
SERVE LORD'S SUPPER	JACK LAWRENCE DANIEL ROGERS JACOB PEEVYHOUSE NOAH BRASHER				
SCRIPTURE READING SUNDAY A.M.	STEVE FOSTER	DYLAN HOLT	JOSHUA BRASHER	JACOB KEEN	
CLOSING PRAYER SUNDAY A.M.	MONTE PAUL MORRIS	NORRIS DEPREIST	KYLE FOSTER	WILLIAM MOORE	
OPENING PRAYER SUNDAY P.M.	STEVE FOSTER	DAVID BRYANT	DALE ADEN	DALE BALLENTINE	
LEAD SINGING SUNDAY P.M.	KEITH PEEVYHOUSE	KEITH PEEVYHOUSE	KEITH PEEVYHOUSE	KEITH PEEVYHOUSE	
SCRIPTURE READING SUNDAY P.M.	NOAH BRASHER	JACOB PEEVYHOUSE	JACOB KEEN	STEVE FOSTER	
CLOSING PRAYER SUNDAY P.M.	DYLAN HOLT	DANIEL ROGERS	CHARLIE WACHSMUTH	ZACK CHRISTMAN	
OPENING PRAYER WEDNESDAY	STEVE FOSTER	TIM ROGERS	NICK BRYANT	DALE BALLENTINE	SHERRILL SMITH
LEAD SINGING WEDNESDAY	JAN 3 JACOB PEEVYHOUSE	JAN 10 JACOB PEEVYHOUSE	JAN 17 JACOB PEEVYHOUSE	JAN 24 JACOB PEEVYHOUSE	JAN 31 JACOB PEEVYHOUSE
DEVOTIONAL WEDNESDAY	TIM ROGERS	MARK WRIGHT	DAVID BRASHER	DALE ADEN	DAVID BRYANT
CLOSING PRAYER WEDNESDAY	MONTE MORRIS	JACOB KEEN	STEVE FOSTER	NOAH BRASHER	JOSHUA BRASHE