The Church:

What Do We Do In The Church?

Part 2

Introduction

In our study of the church, we have searched the scriptures for answers to the questions: what is the church and how do we enter the church? Christ’s church is made up of His followers who are rooted in Christ. And we enter via hearing the word, believing in Christ, confessing Him, repenting, and being baptized. So once we are in the church and a part of Christ’s family, what should we actually do in the church? Last week, we began our look at answering that question: what do we do in the church? Looking at what kind of activities we do when gathering together. Last week, we looked at the Lord’s Supper, which is of great importance to us and is a remembrance and proclamation regarding Christ, and is the focus of our gathering. This morning, let’s continue our look with some other activities…

Singing

**Col. 3:16**

* We are instructed here to sing to the Lord and to let the word of Christ dwell within us – as we sing, we are to focus on the words and being singing words of significance – words that will teach and guide us – remind us of the spiritual truths found within God’s word
* As we sing, we are teaching one another – while it can be joyful and uplifting to sing at home to oneself, we are instructed to teach one another in song – therefore, this must be an act that we carry out together and an act we can carry out within the assembly
* It is good to sing in Christ’s church

**Eph. 5:18-19**

* Again, singing is an activity that can be shared in the church between one another – we are able to speak to one another through these spiritual songs
* As we gather together we can teach one another, comfort one another, and encourage each other

**James 5:13**

* A clear and concise message can be found here: If we are joyful, sing!
* Being a part of Christ’s church should fill us with joy – we should be pleased and happy when we gather together and are able to share in one another’s presence – and so it makes sense that we will share in song – as we read here: when we are cheerful, let’s sing

Praying

**Acts 1:13-14**

* Here we have example of Christians gathering together and praying
* Prayer is a powerful tool that we have – being able to go to God and speak with Him, giving Him thanks, but also making requests onto Him – how wonderful is that?
* We can go to God in prayer at any time and are encouraged to do so often – in fact, 1 Thessalonians 5:17 tells us to pray without ceasing
* So it makes sense to also pray when we are with other followers of Jesus

**Acts 2:42**

* We see the Christians as they followed in the apostle’s doctrine, coming together to break bread, but also to pray

**Acts 12:5**

* Here is just an example of the church offering prayers, further enforcing prayer as a part of the activities in the church
* The church was praying for Peter and his well-being

Collection

**1 Cor. 16:1-2**

* Here we find instruction to take up a collection on the first day of the week – something we do here and another suitable activity within the church

**2 Cor. 9:6-7**

* God loves a cheerful giver – we are not told how much to give, but rather the manner in which to give
* We are to give cheerfully, not reluctantly or begrudgingly

Teaching/Studying

**Rom. 10:17**

* It is important to hear the gospel message
* A great opportunity for this is when we gather together

**Acts 20:7**

* They gathered together and Paul spoke a message to them

**Acts 17:10-11**

* Don’t just listen to a message, but study
* Search the Scriptures to verify that what is being taught is the truth

Conclusion

**1 Tim. 4:12-16**

* Reading, exhorting, and teaching are important and they are all things that we can do in the assembly when we come together
* We want to be focused on the gospel message and be focused on Jesus, and gathering together to read, praise, and learn of Him is a blessing – they are wonderful activities to participate in within Christ’s church

**Rev. 19:6-7; 22:3**

* It is good to worship and serve God as we gather together, as we are a part of Christ’s church and worshiping and serving God is something that we will continue to do
* Even in heaven we will serve God and worship and praise Him

Within the church we partake of the Lord’s Supper, we sing, pray, take up a collection, and study from God’s word – really we worship God! Lord willing, in a couple of weeks, we will wrap up our look at Christ’s church by looking at some of the blessings regarding being a part of the church…