

1 Faithful Attendance
Three Keys to Unlocking a Healthy Church
Hebrews 10:25 **September 30, 2018**

You find **Inspiration** all over the place!

At **Freshman Orientation** this year.

Three Keys to Unlocking a Healthy Church

- I. **Faithful Attendance** **Hebrews 10:25**
- II. **Fantabulous Attitude** **Philippians 2:5-11**
- III. **Fulfilled Achievement** **Matthew 28:16-20**

The Bible tells us we need to attend church so we can worship God with other believers and be taught His Word for **our spiritual growth**. The early church “**devoted themselves** to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer” (Acts 2:42). We **should follow** that example of devotion—and to the same things.

Hebrews 10:25 **not neglecting** to meet together, as is the **habit** of some, but **encouraging** one another, and **all the more** as you see the Day drawing near.

Jesus Founded The Church **Matthew 16:18** And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build **my church**, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- I. **Faithful Attendance** is **Commanded** by God!
(25) not neglecting to meet together,

Acts 2:46 **Every** day, they **met together** in the temple.

II. **Faithful Attendance** Should be Customary for you and your family! (25) not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some,

Webster defines the word Habit: A settled tendency or usual manner of behavior, an acquired mode of behavior that has become nearly or completely involuntary, an Addiction, a behavior pattern acquired by frequent repetition.

Habits can be good or bad.

III. **Faithful Attendance** is Comforting for Everyone! (25) but encouraging one another,

The writer of Hebrews is very concerned about the welfare of the members of the Church. Which is why he prefaces the mandate to assemble together in verse (24) And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

Persecution was wide spread toward the church and fear was gripping the Fellowship. There was a growing need to stimulate the membership to the basic Christian conduct of love and good works.

We find ourselves today in a similar situation. Our culture is out of control with anger, fear, hate, worry. Today's church needs to take a breath and encourage one another to Love and Good Works. We need to come together to reach a community that is increasingly moving away from The Church. To accomplish this we must reach out in Christian Love and Good Works.

IV. **Faithful Attendance** is **Crucial** in these Days of Uncertainty! **(25)** and **all the more** as you see **the Day** drawing near.

- Christians should have a **Since of Urgency** “**all the more**” to becoming more **Faithful** to their local Church. The Practice of assembling together should increase as the believing community sees the day of Christ return drawing nearer.
- Christians should recognize the **Upcoming Event**. “**the Day** drawing near.”

How do we know what Event “**the day**” is referring to? **Hebrews 10:37-38** For, "Yet a little while, and the **coming one will come** and will not delay; ³⁸ but my righteous one shall **live by faith**, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him." (From **Hab 2:3-4**)

V. **Faithful Attendance** was **Customary** for Jesus! **(25) Luke 4:16** And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was **his custom**, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.

1 Peter 2:21 For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you **an example**, so that you might **follow in his steps**.

1 Corinthians 11:1 And you should imitate me, just as I **imitate Christ**.

Football in the fall. Basketball in the winter.
Baseball in the spring and summer. I have been an
avid sports fan all my life. **But I've had it with**
Sports! Want to know why?

- Every time I went, they asked me for money.
- The people I had to sit with didn't seem very friendly.
- The seats were too hard and not at all comfortable.
- I went to many games, but the coach never came to call on me.
- The referee made a decision which I could not agree with.
- I suspected that I was sitting with some hypocrites -- they came ^[L]_[SEP]to see their friends and what others were wearing rather than to see the game.
- Some games went into overtime, and I was late getting home.
- The band played some new songs that I had never heard before. Plus they weren't very good anyway!
- It seems that the games are scheduled when I want to do other things.
- I was taken to too many games by my parents when I was growing up. ^[L]_[SEP]I don't want to take

my children to any games, because I want them to choose for themselves what sport they like best. They may not even like sports!

That's silly isn't it? Yet, those are the same kinds of excuses people use for not coming to church. Church is far more important than any ball game has ever been.

Yet we see all the time that Ball Games are **SOLD OUT!**

We need to stop our excuses, and just admit that our hearts are not where they need to be with the Lord.

We need to repent of our sin of not attending His house, and get back to where we need to be: the house of God!

Praise Team Takes the Platform