

60 SECONDS IN THE SCRIPTURES

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

THE FACTS:

- ✓ The church is the body of Christ (Col. 1:18; Eph. 1:22,23; 1 Cor. 12:27).
- ✓ Since every member of the physical body is important, every member of the spiritual body is important (1 Cor. 12:12-31).
- ✓ Without the members of the body of Christ all participating, worshipping, and working together, there would be no local church (Acts 14:27; 20:7).
- ✓ The early church had members in the habit of neglecting the assembly, not seeing the importance, which spurred the command to not forsake the assembly (Heb. 10:25).

THE FOCUS:

- ✓ There are Christians today who are still in the habit of neglecting the assembly in pursuit of worldly things (cf. 1 John 2:15).
- ✓ We must be sure that we are setting our minds constantly on spiritual things and putting the Lord and His church first (Mat. 6:33).
- ✓ There are two main questions that Christians commonly ask about assembling together that show signs of immaturity:
 - How many services to I have to attend to go to Heaven?
 - Where does the Bible command us to assemble on Sunday night and Wednesday night?
- ✓ Asking how many services we have to attend comes out of a selfish society.
 - Remember, we must deny ourselves and give up our own desires to truly follow Christ (Luke 9:23).
 - As we grow in the faith, we will want to make time to worship God more and seek out opportunities to do so (i.e. Gospel meetings, VBS, special events and any time the church assembles).
- ✓ The Bible doesn't directly speak about assembling on Sunday night and Wednesday night, but it does speak about obeying the elders who rule over the local congregations (Heb. 13:17).
 - Elders have the responsibility to feed the church (Acts 20:28) and they do this by providing more opportunities for the congregation to grow.
 - The elders oversee the local church (1 Pet. 5:3) and we have the responsibility to respect them and support their efforts as they give us opportunities to mature.