

Holy Bible Fundamentals

This is a twelve-lesson course.

Lesson 6

Section 1 : Why Attend Church?

The reason that we should attend church is this is God's command to us in Hebrews 10:24, 25, which reads "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works. Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is, but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." When we are saved the Holy Spirit is given to us as a gift to dwell in us (Ephesians 1:13). One of his wonderful purposes is to guide us into all truth about God so we can learn of his love and love him back (1 John 2:27). We have been reconciled back to God or restored to fellowship, by the blood of Jesus after sin separated us when Adam and Eve sinned. (Romans 5:10, Ephesians 2:13, Romans 5:12). God is love and his first and great commandment to us is to love him with all and his desire is for us to worship him in spirit and in truth, (1 John 4:16, Matthew 22:37, John 4:23). The greatest thing we can do is get to know God, (Philippians 3:10). The Holy Spirit teaches us the deep things of God, and we need not that anyone teach us (1 Corinthians 2:10, 1 John 2:27). So why then does God command us not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together if the Holy Spirit teaches all things? The answer is that God has chosen to use all believers to help others. As Hebrews 10:24 and 25 says we are to exhort one another and provoke unto love and good works. God is good and merciful and we can experience part of the blessing in helping others and give glory to God, (2 Corinthians 4:7). As a baby needs a family so a Christian needs a church family to grow in. The eunuch when asked if he understood the scriptures he was reading replied to Phillip, how can I except some man guide me? (Acts 8:30, 31). In Acts 18:19, 20, Jesus said "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."



How Do I Choose a Church?

How can we discern which church to attend? If there are false teachers then there will be false churches (2 Corinthians 11:13-15, 2 Timothy 4:3). How can we discern between lies and truth? 2 Peter 1:20 says the scripture is of no private interpretation, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Timothy 3:16 says that all



scripture is given by inspiration of God. This is saying that there is only one way to interpret scripture when taught by the author which is the Holy Spirit. Since a church is made up of imperfect people it cannot be perfect, but true believers since taught by the Holy Spirit will believe essentially the same, and therefore can help one another and have unity. This is not to say that on some unimportant or nondoctrinal things in the Bible that God may lead people differently since he is a God of variety with a unique perfect plan for each person, but the same rule applies that we are to be fully persuaded in our own mind by the scriptures (Romans 14:5, Acts 17:11). The Bible says faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17). The just shall live by faith (Romans 1:17). Anything not of faith is sin. (Romans 14:23). The Bible also tells us that there will be many false teachers as there also was in Paul's day. The important thing to realize is that the written word which is the Bible, is about the living word which is Christ, who is the truth (John 1:1, 14, John 14:6). When we study the Bible, which is truth, the Holy Spirit will reveal the truth to us about true churches and false churches, (John 17:17). There are some beliefs and religions that openly deny what the Bible says. There are other churches that don't deny the Bible, but they don't preach it. Then there are the good churches, which believe in the verbal inspiration of the scriptures, and that we live by every word that proceedeth from the mouth of God, and that also practice it, (Revelation 1:3).

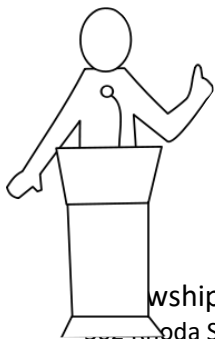
How to Attend With Us

We invite you to attend church with us. Our church is located in Hurricane, West Virginia. If you are not in our area, we invite you to join us for a phone church service where you can meet on the phone line with other Christians for a time of prayer, praise, Bible teaching, and fellowship. We are now operating 2 conference call phone churches at various times during the week. If you would like to attend one of these church services through phone and/or help start a church, let us know in the comments section of the Quiz. Our desire is to reach our state, your state, the entire country, and the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ and unite believers everywhere in His name.



The Office of the Pastor

Hebrews 10:25 says that we are not to be the same as some were in Paul's day who did neglect assembling together and warned us that there would be even more of this in the last day, which we believe is in the day we are in. The Bible says in the last days men will wax worse and worse, (2 Timothy 3:13). The devil has had some 6,000 years to develop lies and we need the truth of the word even more, and it is all the more important that we are taught by an undershepherd, the pastor, who has been called by God to dedicate his life to being an example and preacher of the word. God always has the answer for every need in his word. We are as sheep, and sheep need a shepherd. The Bible qualifications for a bishop or pastor or elder are very strict and are given in 1 Timothy 3:1-7, and Titus 1:5-7, since he is given responsibility under Christ who is the Great Shepherd, to teach and lead souls for whom Jesus died. God has also



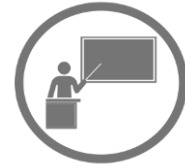
appointed deacons to assist in the work of the church. The Bible also gives qualifications for this office and says that they that use the office of the deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith, (1 Timothy 3:8-13).

THE GREAT COMMISSION

After Jesus rose from the dead, during the 40 day period that he appeared to many, gave the disciples and all believers what is called the Great Commission. The Great Commission included preaching the gospel to every creature in the world and teaching them to



observe all things whatsoever I have commanded thee, (Mark 16:15, Matthew 28:19, 20). The gospel is defined in 1 Corinthians 15:1-8 that Christ died, was buried, and rose again for the payment of our sins, so we could receive salvation as a gift. Jesus



certainly paid an awful price for our sins because of love for us and it is understandable that this would be important to him. There is no other way to be saved. Jesus then went back to heaven, giving the task of giving out the gospel to us. Of course we cannot do this in our own strength, but are given the Holy Spirit to indwell and empower us (John 14:26). Every one of us is to be a light that others might see our good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven, (Matthew 5:16). We are to work together with a common mission or commission to reach and disciple the lost. The word church means “a called out assembly” and is those who have been born again, who are now separated from the things of the world, meeting together as believers to obey the Great Commission to win and disciple others for Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Our church carries out the Great Commission by clearly preaching the simple gospel, leading people to accept Christ as their personal saviour, and teaching the whole Bible, which is preserved in the King James Bible for English-speaking people. We desire to train and equip all believers, providing opportunities in various ministries to share the gospel of Christ. If you would like further information about these opportunities, please let us know in the comment section of the Quiz.

The Ordinances of the Church

There are two ordinances instituted by Jesus Christ for the church. By the ordinances, we mean those outward practices which Christ has prescribed not to save us, but to physically picture the saving truth of the gospel after we have been saved. These two ordinances are baptism and the Lord’s Supper. In Acts 10:48 it says “And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.” 2 Corinthians 11:26 says “For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye so shew the Lord’s death till he come.”



Colossians 3:15 says “let the peace of God rule in your hearts”. The decision of where to attend a church is obviously very important and is a question that God delights to answer. When we with a hungry and honest heart seek God for wisdom concerning this, though the devil is there to deceive us, we can by the Holy Spirit’s direction in his word let his peace in our heart guide us and have assurance where he wants us to attend. In situations where a good church is not available or physical circumstances do not

allow us to attend, assembly can be with one other Christian which makes two together, (Acts 18:20), since people make a church not a building.

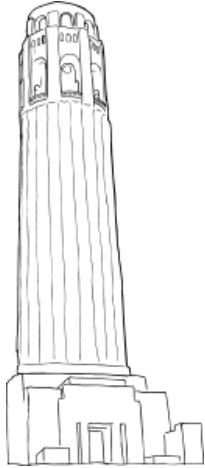
Section 2: History of The World Flood and Babel

Genesis chapter six through 11 tells us how the world became so corrupt that God destroyed it by a flood. Out of all the people on the earth, only Noah his family, and the creatures with him in the ark were saved.

Summary of: The World Flood and Babel



and his family that loved him and desired to do right. Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord. God told Noah to build the ark. Noah did. Noah and his family, and the animals went into the ark and God destroyed the entire world with a flood. Sin corrupted the world and brought the judgment of God



about one thousand six hundred years from Adam and Eve's sin. After the flood, Noah and his family populated the earth, but the life span of man was much shorter, and things never grew as big as before the flood. After the flood God gave man permission to eat edible animals and insects. Also after the flood, God made the law that if any one murdered a person, the murderer was to be killed whether the murderer was a man or an animal, or other creature. God put the rainbow in the sky for a reminder to mankind that he would never destroy the world by a flood again. As mankind began to multiply, they once again rebelled against God and built the tower of Babel instead of spreading out, multiplying, and replenishing the earth. God caused people to speak different languages at the tower of Babel. They then, out of necessity, spread out and formed nations. In time, many people of the same nation and places

began to look the same due to intermarriages within their own people. Thank God for the flood, and for changing the languages of men, for had he not have, we may not have been able to be born due to the wickedness of men united against God. We see through the Old Testament that God always provided a means of returning to him beginning with Adam and Eve when he instituted the animal blood sacrifice with the coats of skin to atone for sin. These sacrifices were not complete, but by faith pictured and looked forward to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, who paid once and for all for the sins of the whole world, (Genesis 15:6, Hebrews 10:1-14).

BIBLE QUIZ

Your Name _____ Date _____

Please circle the T for true or F for false for the following statements. Remember some of these statements are false, and are not to be believed, and are lies of Satan, but the hint Bible verse tells the truth.

T F 1. In the last days it will be less important to assemble together with other Christians. (Hint: Hebrews 10:25)

T F 2. God holds us responsible to discern truth and error by his unchanging word, and he is able to lead us to the correct church. (John 17:17, Colossians 3:15)

T F 3. God's purpose is for all to bear fruit and the church helps equip us by preaching the truth of the word and providing opportunities for service. (Hint: John 15:8, 2 Timothy 4:2)

T F 4. We are to become active participants in the church to edify one another which means to build each other up in the faith. (Hint: 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Acts 20:35)

T F 5. If we are physically able to attend a Bible believing and practicing church or assemble together and choose not to it is disobedience to God. (Hebrews 10:25)

T F 6. We can worship God in nature and don't need to assemble together for spiritual help. (Hebrews 10:25, Matthew 18:20)

T F 7. When the church we attend has departed from teaching important truth of the Bible we should continue to attend if our friends attend or it is a part of family tradition. (2 Timothy 3:5, Revelation 18:4, 1 Timothy 4:1)

T F 8. A baby needs a family so a born again Christian needs a church family to grow in the Lord. (Hebrews 10:25)

T F 9. The pastor is also called the undershepherd under Christ and as sheep need a shepherd, we need a pastor who is an example and preaches the word of God. (1 Timothy 4:12, 2 Timothy 4:2)

T F 10. It is possible to attend some churches for years and never to be taught how to be born again. (Hint: 2 Corinthians 11:3, 1 Timothy 4:1)

T F 11. If a pastor of a church is faithful and meets the requirements of 1 Timothy 3:1-7 for a good pastor we should not attend if there are hypocrites in the church. (Hebrew 10:25, 1 Thessalonians 5:14)

T F 12. We can expect greater personal blessings and growth if we give of ourselves in the church instead of only receiving. (Hint: Acts 20:35, 2 Corinthians 8:5)

(see next page for more questions)

T F 13. One important reason we do not hunger and thirst after God's word is the love of the world is in our hearts. Hint: 1 John 2:15-17)

T F 14. The gospel which is to be preached to every creature is that Jesus died, was buried and rose again for our salvation. (Hint: 1 Corinthians 15:3,4)

You may have further questions on this lesson or would like to share specific prayer burdens for us to pray with you about, or maybe a testimony that God has given you. If so please write on the space below, and on an additional sheet if necessary. Also if you would like this course sent to someone else please leave their name and address.

How to Receive Your Grade and Next Lesson

1. Please make sure your return address is on the return envelope and a stamp. Put your completed quiz and notes only (don't send the lesson) in our pre-addressed envelope. Mail it to: Fellowship Bible Church-302 Rhoda Street-Hurricane, WV 25526. The lessons are free because we want to make them readily available to all, however we are freewill offering supported and donations are appreciated and tax deductible if you would like to help support the ministry.

2. Wait for your graded quiz and next lesson to be sent. If you do not hear from us within 4 to 8 weeks, contact us and let us know. When you have completed all the lessons in a course you will receive a certificate.

3. While you are waiting for your next lesson, we want to encourage you to continue to pray and praise God, read your Bible, witness to others, and attend a Bible believing church.