

**“How Do You Walk Into Church?”**  
“Getting the Most Out of Church” — Part 3  
*Hebrews 10:19-22*

**Review:**

- The church is the centerpiece of God’s purposes for humanity.
- The church is essential to the gospel because God’s gospel created the church.
- Saving faith entails inclusion in a new community, the church.
- The community of Christians in the local church is to be a picture of God’s true church.
- Without a commitment to the local church, we haven’t rightly understood the gospel.
- Each local church is to demonstrate to the world something of the beauty and truth of the gospel.

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

Ephesians 5:15-17 (ESV)

**How do you walk into church?**

**Answer:** We should walk into church praying about where to sit.

**1. My house will be called a house of prayer.**

...My house will be called a house of prayer...

Matthew 21:13

**Question:** Why is church to be a place of prayer?

**Answer:** Because when you pray, you declare your belief in a sovereign God.

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Acts 2:42

“I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything you ask for, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them.”

Matthew 18:19-20

**Application:** Friends, do not miss the high value of walking into church to pray! Do not miss the value of walking into church to be prayed for! God has done miracles in this place because people have come to bring their needs and concerns before God. We have a God who listens to prayers and answers!

If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!

Matthew 7:11

## 2. Church is about more than just you!

Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, making the most of your time, because the days are evil. So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; and be subject to one another in the fear of Christ.

Ephesians 5:15-21 (NASB)

**Application:** We come not to spectate or consume, nor do we come even to have our own personal encounter with God. We come to love and serve. Loving and serving and encouraging those around us is a prominent theme in the Bible's teaching about church.

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

1 Peter 2:4-5

**Think about it:** Walking into church can become routine, but I don't think it was ever meant to be routine when we come into the presence of God in the midst of His people. God is the one who calls the church together. He has things He wants to accomplish through His people. The church is an assembly called together by God Himself, for His own purposes.

**Personal Reflection:** What do you think is more important, that your expectations get met at church or you meet God's expectations as His church? When the church is finally gathered in heaven, do you think the focus will be your needs or your Lord's glory?

Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another and all the more as you see the Day approaching. Hebrews 10:23-25