

God's Hour of Grace

Living the Christian Life Successfully *series!*

A Bible, History, Faith, and Mission Course for New Adventist Believers

Lesson 3—Regular Church

What is the importance of regular public worship of God in a community setting? Is it entirely necessary for my faith? How does it benefit me? And, how can I be of benefit to others? What is my place to take in public worship services? How important is it? Can't I just stay at home and have my own kind of worship from week to week? Do I really need to worship God publically every week? What does the Bible say? Let's find out together how the Bible gives real answers to these crucial questions about public worship!

1. **How important is community to God? For what purpose did God create His creatures? (Revelation 4:11)**
2. **Must man be a social being? Is it good for people to be alone throughout their lives? (Genesis 2:18)**
3. **How important is it that we CHOOSE the right kind of friends to associate with? (Psalm 101:3-7; Proverbs 1:10,15,16)**
4. **Does God say it's okay to be a regular part of any old church fellowship? Or, are there some fellowships in this corrupted world, which are not right for us? (Revelation 18:4,5)**
5. **What instruction does the Apostle Paul give us in Hebrews concerning church fellowship and attendance? (Hebrews 10:25)**
 - a. *Should we ever "forsake the assembling of ourselves together" as the manner of some has been?*
 - b. **What should we do more of as we see the day of Christ's coming drawing nearer?**
 - c. *What is the purpose of our assembling together? What should we be doing for "one another"? (Hint: "exhortation")*
 - d. *Note: We should always encourage one another in the faith. We should meet together with like-minded believers in Christ, and share ideas, testimonies, and experiences that we've had with God. We should encourage one another in the work of the Lord. We should encourage each other to grow in the character and grace of the Lord. Remember, **a coal that stays close to the other hot coals in the fire will burn brightly and warmly!** But, if you separate and spread out the coals from each other, then the fire will grow cold, and be more likely to die out completely.*

6. **For what purpose does God send prophets and teachers to His church?** (Ephesians 4:8,11-13)
- If we neglect to attend the religious services where God sends His messengers and messages, then will we receive the benefit of the character transforming messages which God has designed to perfect our faith? Will we grow to be like Jesus, as God desires?*
7. **What is the example that Jesus Christ gives to us in regards to attending the weekly services?** (Luke 4:16)
- As a follower of Jesus Christ, should we not follow the example He gives to us?*
 - Besides just attending to passively gain some blessing, did Jesus also participate in the service to share some blessing? Is Christ's example worthy for us to follow—"each according to his ability" (ref. Matthew 25:14,15).*
 - Note: Jesus Christ himself gives us the example of regular assembly for worship in the house of God with other believers. Christ met for worship weekly in the house of God, even though not everyone at the place of worship was a perfect person; even though many of the Scribes and Pharisees happened to be hypocrites. Still Christ came—week after week after week, and Jesus contributed to the worship service whatever he could, to exert an influence for God's Kingdom upon the others who were in attendance there.*
8. **Did the apostle Paul also meet regularly for the weekly Sabbath worship time?** (Acts 18:4) ____
- Note: The Bible calls the Sabbath day "a day of holy convocation," which is a day for a gathering together with a holy purpose (Leviticus 23:3).*
9. **What was the experience of the early Christian church in regards to public worship and fellowship?** (Acts 2:41-47)
- The **Early church** continually met together for worship. They also worked together, celebrated Christ together, ate together, and did many other such things. They "continued steadfastly" in God's way and in fellowship together! We can and should develop and have the same kind of experience!!
10. **What will the New Heaven's and the New Earth be like? Will people faithfully gather there to worship the Lord?** (Isaiah 66:22,23)
- Note: The Bible tells us, in the New Heaven's and the New Earth "all flesh with gather before" the Lord to worship Him from one Sabbath to another (week to week), and from one new moon to another (month to month).*
 - If this is the privilege and practice of Heaven throughout all the ages of eternity, then won't you gladly do so now?***

Is it your desire and commitment to always worship the Lord from Sabbath to Sabbath in God's faithful church community? _____