

## More Than Church Attendance

*James 1:19-27*

Introduction:

I can't begin to tell you how many times I have stood here and taught on the importance of Church attendance.

Hebrews 10:25

Church is where we come to be fed, to fellowship, and to bring our lives into focus.

In the Book of Acts we find that the early church met on a daily basis, for preaching, praising, and prayer.

The importance of belonging to a local church simply cannot be overstated.

\* Hot coal illustration

But having said that, we understand that there is much more to being a Christian than just going to church. The scripture teaches us that we must have:

### I. The Right Ambitions – Goals & Aspirations

*Brethren I count not myself to be perfect...*

*Someone said "If you aim at nothing, you are sure to hit it"*

*I want my life to count, I want the ministry that God has given me to count*

*I want to have a Positive Impact for the cause of Christ.*

*We are to strive for:*

#### A. Personal Development

1. Grow in Grace
2. And besides this giving all diligence add to your faith...
3. There are areas in each of our lives where we can draw closer
  - a. But it is not going to happen by accident
4. We are to set goals
  - a. Daniel purposed
5. We are to strive for excellence
  - a. Hebrews 6:1

#### B. Reach out

1. Luke 19:10
2. Say not 4 months...

\* The woods are full of 'em

### 3. Opportunitites Abound

*There is more to being a Christian than Church Attendance. We must have the right ambitions.*

## II. The Right Attitudes

Webster's Dictionary defines attitude as a way of acting or behaving.

We must have the right attitude toward

### A. The Word of God

1. Receive it
  - a. It is able to Save
  - b. Strenghten
  - c. Steer
2. Respond
  - a. Be not hearers only
  - b. It is our instruction manual

\* trying to put a childs toy together

3. It is our Mirror
  - a. James 1
4. It is our Map

### B. The Work of God

*There is more to being a Christian than Church Attendance. We must have the right ambitions; the Right Attitudes, and finally...*

## III. The Right Actions

- A. Laborers together
- B. Love the Lord thy God...
  - a. Whatsoever thy hands findeth to do...
- C. Love thy neighbor...

*Church attendance is important, but being doers of the Word is even more so. Our Ambitions in our Christian life will determine our Attitudes. Our Attitudes will influence our Actions; and our Actions will show who we really are.*

*By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples...*