

The Benefits of a Gospel Meeting

SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 4:11-13

INTRODUCTION.

- A. What are “gospel meetings?”
 - 1. Gospel meetings are a series of worship services designed to provide opportunities of encouragement and spiritual growth to the members.
 - a. Some other terms used would be revivals and lectureships.
 - b. Many years ago, the revivals or meetings would last two or three weeks. In many instances, the services would be held in a large tent to accommodate the large crowds.
 - 2. In more modern times (over the last 40 to 60 years), things have changed to accommodate the busy lifestyles of the members.
 - a. Most gospel meetings, revivals, or lectureships run a week or less.
 - b. Some gospel meetings or lectureships are structured for the weekend.
 - c. Some lectureships are targeted at different age groups, such as youth lectureships, lectureships for men, lectureships for woman, etc.
 - d. Some churches will have weeklong Bible classes for young people such as VBS’s.
 - 3. The end goal is to teach and edify the local brethren and open doors of opportunity to share the gospel with the lost.
- B. In this lesson, I would like to consider two benefits of attending gospel meetings, lectureships, extra Bible classes, etc.

I. CAUSES THE CHURCH TO GROW.

- A. Grow in knowledge and understanding. (Hebrews 5:12-14; cf. 2 Timothy 2:15)
 - 1. Evangelists, pastors, and teachers help in the growing process. (Ephesians 4:11-16)

2. Elders (pastors) are to “shepherd” the flock. (Acts 20:28; cf. 1 Peter 5:1-4)
3. Spiritual feeding brings growth and protection. (Acts 20:28-30)
- B. Grow in faith. (Romans 10:17)
 1. Increase one’s personal conviction.
 - a. Example: Study the record of the life and death of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. (John 20:30-31)
 2. Increase one’s trust in God.
 - a. Example: Study the history of God’s relationship with His people.
- C. Grow towards spiritual maturity.
 1. This maturity comes through learning and understanding of God’s word. (Hebrews 5:12-14)
 2. This maturity is seen within our lives. (Titus 2:11-14)
 3. Let us not be children. (cf. Ephesians 4:14)
- D. When we come together to worship the Lord and to study His word, we help one another to grow in knowledge, in faith, and in spiritual maturity.

II. CAUSES CONVICTION IN THE UNBELIEVER.

- A. This is a hopeful outcome. (1 Corinthians 14:20-25)
 1. In the first century, the Holy Spirit had given some Christians the gift of speaking in tongues. However, when using this gift in worship, it required one with the gift of interpretation to be present.
 - a. Paul explained that speaking in tongues without someone to interpret served as a judgment from the Lord. (vs 21-23; cf. Isaiah 28:11-13 – judgment upon Ephraim and Jerusalem)
 2. The gift of prophecy would be more beneficial to the unbeliever. They would hear and understand the words spoken. This understanding would cause the unbeliever to be convicted. (vs 24-25)
- B. All visitors are welcomed during the worship services. Our hope is that the unbelievers will likewise hear the word of the Lord and have the conviction to obey the word of the Lord.

CONCLUSION.

- A. There are great benefits to coming together to worship the Lord and to studying His wonderful word.
 - 1. It helps you to grow in knowledge and understanding.
 - 2. It helps you to increase your trust in the Lord.
 - 3. It helps you to increase your conviction to serve the Lord.
 - 4. It helps you to grow in spiritual maturity.
 - 5. It helps to open doors of opportunity to teach others about Jesus Christ.
- B. Our 2026 Summer Gospel Meeting begins next Sunday.
 - 1. Let's all make the most of this wonderful opportunity.
 - 2. Invite a friend, a family member, a neighbor, a co-worker or even a stranger to come hear the word of God.

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