

## FINDING YOUR WAY BACK HOME

When people become Christians, they are typically very excited and ready to serve the Lord. However, there are many struggles that a Christian will go through and some will fall away. Even some of the most faithful Christians can allow worldly things to slowly cause them to drift away from God and His church. This lesson is designed to show how important each person is to God and to His church. Please read each Scripture in its entirety before answering the questions.

### THE LOVE OF GOD

**Romans 8:38-39** Can anything separate us from the love of God? \_\_\_\_\_

**Joshua 24:15** Can we choose not to love God by not serving Him? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to serve God? \_\_\_\_\_

**John 14:15** Jesus says that if we \_\_\_\_\_ Him we will \_\_\_\_\_ His commands.

Do you love Jesus? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been obeying His commands? \_\_\_\_\_ If your answer is no, what is hindering you from obeying His commands? \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMPLES OF REPENTANCE

**Luke 15:11-32** The prodigal son left his father's house to live his life on his own terms. It doesn't take long for him to hit rock bottom. He remembers how comforting it was to be in his father's house. He decides to go back home, but he did not feel worthy (19). Do you feel like the prodigal son? \_\_\_\_\_ Did the father forgive the son? \_\_\_\_\_ Will God forgive you if you repent? \_\_\_\_\_ This Parable teaches us how important each child of God is and how God wants all His children to come home no matter what path they have been down.

**Luke 15:4-7** There will be more joy in \_\_\_\_\_ over one sinner who repents. Isn't it comforting to know that when we repent and come back home that all of heaven rejoices? \_\_\_\_\_

**Judges 10:10-16** God was growing tired of the Jews disobedience. When the Jews repented from their hearts, did God have compassion on them once again? \_\_\_\_\_ If God could have compassion on these disobedient Jews, don't you believe He will have compassion on you? \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Peter 3:9** Does God want us to perish? \_\_\_\_\_ Are you ready to repent? \_\_\_\_\_

### YOU'RE IMPORTANT TO THE CHURCH

**1 Corinthians 12:12-27** This is a wonderful section of Scripture that shows how important every member is to the body of Christ, which is the church. Notice how each person serves a different function within the church. Paul tells us that there should be no \_\_\_\_\_ in the body (25). He goes on to say if one member suffers, all the \_\_\_\_\_ suffer with it or if one member is honored all the members \_\_\_\_\_ with it (26). If you neglect the church have you caused a division in the body? \_\_\_\_\_ Can you know when the other members of the body of Christ are suffering or need to be honored if you neglect the church? \_\_\_\_\_

**Ephesians 4: 15-16** Can you do your share which causes growth in the body for the edifying of itself in love if you neglect the church? \_\_\_\_\_

**Acts 20:28** Jesus purchased the church with His own \_\_\_\_\_ This is the same blood that He shed for our sins. Don't you think it is important to be a part of Jesus' church that He purchased with His own blood? \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 10:23-29** We are not to \_\_\_\_\_ the assembling of ourselves together. If we continue to sin willfully there no longer remains a \_\_\_\_\_ for sins. If we choose to willfully sin, it is like trampling the \_\_\_\_\_ underfoot and counting the blood of the covenant a \_\_\_\_\_

Now that you see how important you are to the church and how much God loves you, don't you think it's time that you came back home? \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 6:33** We are to seek \_\_\_\_\_ the kingdom of God and His righteousness.

**Haggai 1:1-15** We learn that the Jews were neglecting the temple of the Lord. They were busy building their own houses and living life for themselves. Things kept going wrong because God was punishing them for their neglect of His temple. We can learn a valuable lesson from these Jews. When they found out that God wanted His temple built, they obeyed His word and put Him first in their lives. Are you ready to start putting God first in your life again? \_\_\_\_\_

We learn from the Bible that we are to sing **Ephesians 5:19**, partake of the Lord's Supper **Luke 22:14-23; Acts 20:7**, and give of our means **1 Corinthians 16:1-2** on the first day of the week. Can you obey these commands if you stay at home on the first day of the week? \_\_\_\_\_

## THE CONSEQUENCES OF NEGLECTING GOD

**Hebrews 2:1-3** Have you drifted away from God and neglected your salvation? \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Peter 2:20-22** Peter tells us that those who have fallen away after knowing the truth are worse off than in the \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 25:14-30** What happened to the third servant who hid his talent in the ground and was not productive for his master? \_\_\_\_\_ Was the first and second servant pleasing to their master? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you want to be pleasing to God or do you want to follow in the footsteps of the third servant? \_\_\_\_\_

## CONCLUSION

We have learned in this lesson that God truly loves all of mankind and wants them all to repent. It doesn't matter what you have done in the past, your sins are no match for the cleansing power of Jesus' blood. Every person is important to the church, and every person has a function he can perform to help the church grow. Sometimes we allow our work, worldly desires, or a person to cause us to fall away from the church. Are any of these truly valid reasons to neglect the body of Christ? Of course not, they are just excuses. We also learned the Jesus purchased the church with His own blood. If we love Him, we will want to be a part of His body every time the saints assemble. There are dire consequences in neglecting God and His church. I hope this study has encouraged you to make a change in your life and you will repent and turn to God. He is patiently waiting for you to find your way home.