

Faith Christian Fellowship
Sunday, April 12, 2015
Why Go to Church? 4
We Need Each Other

TEXT: 1 Cor 1:2 / Act 2:42 / Heb 10:24-25 NLT Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. (25) And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near. It is fashionable today to say that we can be spiritual, even Christians, without going to church. Why is going to church such a big deal?

We saw the Church was created by God to be His holy people. The gathering of the saints is designed to strengthen us in our purpose through building a three-legged relationship stool: Interaction with God, with the 5-fold ministry, and with each other. Today: .We Need Each other

- ❖ We need one another to become what we are designed to be: Heb 10:24-25
 - Encourage: paroxusmós; to stir up, provoke. In a good sense, a sharpening; used figuratively meaning an encouragement to some action or feeling From 3947 par-ox-oo'-no- to **sharpen alongside**, that is, (figuratively) to exasperate: - easily provoke, stir.
 - We are taught and admonished by those next to us
 - Rom_15:14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish (Noutheteo) one another.
 - Col_3:16 Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.
 - We are exhorted to faith and away from sin: Heb_3:13 But exhort one another daily, while it is called To day; lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin.
 - We need friends of like faith to **walk alongside**
 - Proverbs 27:17 You don't sharpen steel with a hammer)
 - Proverbs 27:9 TLV sweet counsel form caring hearts
 - Proverbs 25:11-13 MSG The right word **at the right time** is like a custom-made piece of jewelry, (12) And **a wise**

friend's timely reprimand is like a gold ring slipped on your finger. (13) **Reliable friends** who do what they say are like cool drinks in sweltering heat--refreshing!

- ❖ We need one another to carry us when the way is difficult. **Job description for burden carriers:**
 - **Receive:** Rom_15:7 Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God.
 - **Put up with.** Eph_4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
 - **Carry:** Gal_6:2 Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.
 - **Comfort:** 1Th_4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.
 - **Encourage:** 1 Thessalonians 5:10-11 NLT ...so encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.
- ❖ We need one another's gifts. We are a body!
 - Everybody has a part to play: 1Co 14:26 / Gal_5:10 / 1 Peter 4:10
 - I only have a purpose insofar as it serves the corporate purpose. We are connected. Romans 12:4-5 MSG In this way we are like the various parts of a human body. Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way around. (5) The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and function as a part of his body. But as a chopped-off finger or cut-off toe we wouldn't amount to much, would we? So since we find ourselves fashioned into all these excellently formed and marvelously functioning parts in Christ's body,
 - A member in the body: 1 Corinthians 12:27.
 - A child in the family: Ephesians 3:14-15
 - A brick in the building: 1 Peter 2:5

"The bible knows nothing of solitary religion."

John Wesley