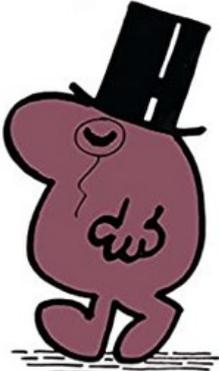
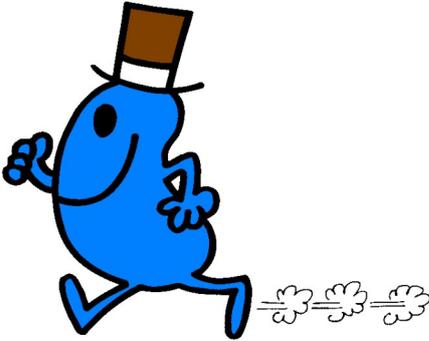


Session 13: The Importance of attending Church

(First Pause)

Answer the following question:

Mr Smug		<p>“I can do Christianity without the Church.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believes he knows better than the church. • Is happy to complain about the Church and its failures. • Doesn't attend a Church.
Mr Zealous		<p>“It's all about the lost. Church is a place to be when I have the time.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constantly busy with “Christian” pursuits. • Attends random Churches haphazardly. • Preoccupied with reaching unbelievers.
Mr Justice		<p>“It's ok for some – religious amusement for the masses – just not for me.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thinks that Church is fore a “type” of person. On which he is an expert. • Consumes his “Church intake” recreationally.
Mrs Moody		<p>“The Church is all about the minister... and whether or not we're on the same page.”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is preoccupied with the minister and leadership with the church. • Regular and faithful attendee of a single church.

Do you see yourself reflected in any of these characters? Have you met anyone who demonstrates these traits?

Answers will vary

(Second Pause)

Read Acts 2:46-47

What should you go to church for?

Fellowship, teaching, worship, etc. - Answers will vary

What elements of a church service work best for you? Why do you think that is?

Answers will vary

(Final Section)

Answer Questions

What do each of these scriptures instruct us to do, and how is the church well suited to do it?

<i>Colossians 3:16, 1 Timothy 4:13</i>	<i>Read Scripture</i>
<i>Ephesians 5:19, Proverbs 25:20</i>	<i>Sing</i>
<i>Philippians 4:6, 1 Timothy 2:8</i>	<i>Pray</i>
<i>Acts 6:2, 15:5, 1 Thessalonians 2:13</i>	<i>Preach and Listen</i>
<i>Hebrews 13:7</i>	<i>Set an Example</i>
<i>Luke 22:14-23(19), 1 Cor 11:23-34 (24)</i>	<i>Observe the Sacraments</i>
<i>1 Corinthians 16:1-4, 1 Timothy 6:17-18, Romans 15:22-33 (24-28), Acts 5:1-11</i>	<i>GIVE</i>
<i>John 4:24</i>	<i>Do the above in the Spirit and in Truth</i>

Where would you put yourself on the two-sided coin of the Regulative Principle (We should only worship in ways the Bible/God says are Good) vs the Normative principle (We can worship in any way that the Bible hasn't forbidden)?

Answers will vary

How can you see this divide played out in Churches you've attended?

Answers will vary

What kind of picture does Psalm 45:10-17 paint of the Church? How important does this psalm make the church appear?

This Psalm pictures the church not only as the bride of Christ, but also as a princess with all the glory and finery that entails.

What do you think of Gaius' challenge to make locating a good church the priority in moving location? Will you take up this challenge?

Answers will vary

Time permitting/for further study, a brief article explaining some of the regulative principle:
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/kevin-deyoung/the-freedom-of-the-regulative-principle/>