

Responsibilities In A Gospel Meeting

God has blessed us with the privilege of worshipping Him, studying His Word, singing songs of praise and addressing Him in prayer (Ephesians 5:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:17). With this great privilege comes responsibility. Those who engage in worship are responsible to worship in spirit and in truth (John 4:23-24). Both the leaders (in song, prayer, study) and the assembly are obligated to follow God's will in worship, not their own.

In our March meeting, we count on brother Lungstrum to "preach the word" (2 Timothy 4:2). He is expected to do this with the utmost love for God and His Word, as well as fellow man (1 Timothy 4:16). His duty is to teach us without fear or favor (Acts 5:29; Galatians 1:10). He will not come to teach man's opinion or entertain the audience. Rather, he will plant and water so that our souls may be saved (1 Corinthians 3:6).

Those who attend are required to give attention to the things being presented. Like those at Berea, we must "search the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things are so" (Acts 17:11). As we hear the faith preached, we are to examine ourselves to determine whether or not we are living in it (2 Corinthians 13:5). If we are walking according to the Spirit, then let us thank God and strive to help others who are not. If we are not, then let us be resolved to repent (Acts 26:20). Our attitude needs to be like that of Cornelius and his household, ready to hear all things commanded by God (Acts 10:33). If the sermon "steps on our toes," let us change our ways instead of getting mad at the messenger.

Further, those of us who will listen and learn from brother Lungstrum's lessons ought to uphold his hands in truth. We need to let him know how much we appreciate his labors with us.

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