

Super Bowl On A Big Screen

Last week, I saw a church sign that offered the community the opportunity to watch the Super Bowl last Sunday on a large screen. Although I enjoy sports, the Bible does not teach that the church is responsible for activity such as this.

Paul wrote in Ephesians 4:12, *"For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ."* So Paul states that the church's work is comprised of edification (perfecting the saints), benevolence (work of the ministry), and evangelism (edifying of the body of Christ). Aside from benevolence, the work of the church is spiritual, not social. The gospel of Christ is not a "social gospel." The church of the Lord is not a "social institution."

Paul taught that the home is to be the center of social activity -- not the church (1 Corinthians 11:20-22). The increasing tendency to socialize church services and church work by having "fellowship banquets," a social hour with refreshments after the service for various groups, a church dining room or cafeteria to entertain visitors and accommodate social functions, serving refreshments between Bible classes and worship to attract greater attendance, and even watching the Super Bowl on a big screen is purely sectarian and leads directly to what Paul condemned upon the part of the Corinthians. Every person should be impressed with the need to follow God's instructions for His church (Hebrews 8:5). That is all that we claim and all for which we plead. If you would like to participate in worship services which reflect the New Testament pattern, please worship with us this Sunday.

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