

What Are You Looking For In A Church?

Because they have moved into a new community, or have awakened to the need for religion in their lives, or are unhappy with “their old church,” many people are “looking” for a “new church.” What are they looking for? What are you looking for?

1. Some, following family and personal traditions, look for a church like the one they left behind.
2. Because they do not want to travel far to “attend services,” some look for a church nearby.
3. Desiring to feel welcome, some look for a church with “friendly people.”
4. Some look for a big church, where they can get lost in the crowd. Others look for a small church, where they can quickly get to know everybody.
5. Some look for a church with many “youth activities” and “family affairs.”
6. Some want a church that is trying to “solve world problems,” committed to social reform and community development.

Now, if you will look back over that list, you will notice that nothing is said about seeking a church where they can worship and serve God according to His revealed will. Many people are looking for a church that pleases them, rather than a church that pleases God. If you are interested in finding a church that pleases God, look for the following characteristics:

1. A church that respects the sovereignty of God and the authority of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
2. A church that respects the Bible as the inspired word of God, and the gospel of Christ as the power of God for salvation.
3. A church that strives to be like the churches in the New Testament — in name, organization, teaching, work, and worship.
4. A church that is concerned about lost souls and eternal destinies.
5. A church that, instead of catering to their social desires, puts its emphasis on the spiritual needs of men.

We purpose to “speak where the Bible speaks, and be silent where it is silent.” We would be happy to have you visit our assemblies to check us out.

James E. Cooper