

What Would It Take To Get You To Come Back?

Stats don't lie. More people love God on Sunday morning than Sunday night. There will generally be 20% fewer Christians lifting their voices in praise at 6:00 P.M. than at 9:00 A.M. Elders pray about it, preachers preach about it, Christians are concerned about it, and the children wonder about it, but it happens anyway.

The question is often posed among the members, "What would it take to get everybody Sunday night?" We might be tempted to "jazz" up services by appealing to fleshly lusts with giveaways, jokes, food, music, and singing groups. This is the wrong approach. But what is the right approach? What would it take to get "Sunday morning Christians" to come back and worship in the evening?

More Love From God?

If only God were more generous toward His children, they would feel more like expressing love for Him. However, James 1:17 says, "Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow." John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." We do not need more love FROM God, but more love FOR God.

More Sacrifice From Christ?

If Christ had given more, Christians would surely feel a debt to worship. "... And when he had scourged Jesus, he delivered Him to be crucified ... and they stripped Him ... and when they had platted a crown of thorns, they put it upon His head ... and mocked Him ... and they crucified Him" (Matthew 27:26-35). We do not need more sacrifice FROM Christ, but more sacrifice FOR Christ.

A Better God To Worship?

If only Christians had an object worthy of their worship, they would "get more out of Sunday nights." Psalm 86:8 says, "There is no one like Thee among the gods, O Lord; nor are there any works like Thine." Isaiah 40:25, 28 says, "To whom then will you liken Me that I should be his equal?" says the Holy One. Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth does not become weary or tired. His understanding is inscrutable." We do not need a better GOD, but better CHRISTIANS.

A Better Group With Which To Fellowship?

Since Christians are washed in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 7:14), called out of the world (2 Corinthians 6:17), and forgiven of sins (Acts 2:38), they are the best people in the world. They are not perfect, but they are better as a group than whoever one would spend his time with during the period when worship takes place. We do not need a BETTER group, but more desire to ENCOURAGE the group.

The last time I checked, these words had not been erased from my Bible: “Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near” (Hebrews 10:25). Do we no longer believe that deliberate transgressions will cause one to be lost (Romans 6:23; Hebrews 10:26)? We better take God seriously and always demonstrate in our hearts the impulse to be with other Christians.

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