

Membership Matters

In Session 4 we will look at what we Require, Expect and Encourage our members to do.

Required to Attend Sunday Services

Our members are required to attend Sunday services.

²⁴ And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing

Hebrews 10:24-25b

What are appropriate ways to prepare for Sunday services? (25a)

What kinds of habits prevent or enable us going to church? (25b)

Expected to Attend General Meetings

Our members are expected to attend general meetings.

⁵ If anyone has caused pain, he has caused pain not so much to me but to some degree—not to exaggerate—to all of you. ⁶ This punishment by the majority is sufficient for that person.

2 Corinthians 2:5-7

How can one member's sin cause pain to the rest of the church? (5)

What is punishment by the majority? Who are the majority? (6)

Encouraged to Attend a Small Group Bible Study

Our members are encouraged to attend a small group Bible study.

⁴² Every day in the temple, and in various homes, they continued teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

2 Corinthians 2:5-7

What should be a focus of our small group Bible studies? (42)

Fill in and Return

- I commit to attending Sunday services.
- I commit to attending General Meetings as I can.
- I commit to attending a Bible study if I can.

For Further Study

Build up One Another (Gene Getz) - <https://tinyurl.com/y3w8uf4p>

Session 4: What Members Do

Required to Give

Giving is an act of worship and should be anonymous, cheerful, sacrificial, regular and proportional.

¹ Now about the collection for the saints: Do the same as I instructed the Galatian churches. ² On the first day of the week, each of you is to set something aside and save in keeping with how he is prospering, so that no collections will need to be made when I come. ³ When I arrive, I will send with letters those you recommend to carry your gift to Jerusalem. ⁴ If it is suitable for me to go as well, they will travel with me.

1 Corinthians 16:1-4

Corinthian giving was regular. How can you apply this principal? (2a)

Every Corinthian was expected give. How does this apply to you? (2b)

Corinthian giving was planned. Do you budget giving? How? (2c)

The rich and the poor gave proportionally. Do you give proportionally? (2d)

Giving as an act of worship is a familiar theme in Scripture (Nu 18:26). In the Old Testament Israelites tithed earnings, around 23.3%, as a method of taxation; providing for the priests of the Tabernacle and sacrificial system (2 Ch 31:5).

Christians are not told to tithe however we give proportionally to what we earn (1 Co 16:1-2). We give to meet the needs of the saints (Ac 2:44-45), the needs of Christian workers (1 Ti 5:17-18) and the needs of the poor (Mt 25:31-40).

Our giving should be anonymous (Mt 6:1-4) and should be considered a great privilege, not a heavy burden; done with cheerfulness of heart (2 Co 9:7) and be sacrificial in nature (2 Co 8:1-5). Giving is part of regular worship however special offerings can be taken up (Ac 11:29-30).

Finally our prime motive of giving is the example laid down by our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Co 8-9). Our giving ought to be a self-motivated, God-glorifying act of worship (2 Co 9:7).

**Standard Bank Account: Crystal Park Baptist Church, Number: 021
103 100, Branch: Benoni, Code: 013 042**

Fill in and Return

I commit to supporting the work of the church as the Lord enables me.

For Further Study

Principals for Giving (Mark Penrith) - <https://tinyurl.com/y37d8cwe>

Required to Pray

We bring each other before the throne of grace in prayer.

¹⁶ I never stop giving thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, would give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened so that you may know what is the hope of his calling, what is the wealth of his glorious inheritance in the saints, ¹⁹ and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the mighty working of his strength.

Ephesians 1:16-19

How regular and intentional are you at praying for the saints? What have you got to give thanks for for the church you are part of? (16)

What is the Spirit of wisdom and revelation? (17)

What does it mean when we pray for the enlightenment of one another? And how does enlightenment result in hope? (18)

What might a powerfully enabled church look like? Are you praying this prayer for us? (19)

Things you can pray for: Our leaders' wisdom, holiness and zeal. Our members who are ill, discouraged, grieving, weak, caused to grow in knowledge and holy living. Our witness and the proclamation of the Gospel.

Fill in and Return

- I commit to praying for the work of the church.
- I know the weekly prayer meeting is on Sundays at 8:30am.
- I have a membership list which I can use to pray with.
- I have been added to the CPBC Prayer and Praise WhatsApp group.

For Further Study

Praying for Young Converts (Stuart Olyott) - <https://tinyurl.com/y3awru7c>

Required to Serve

We love God and one another. We serve God by serving one another.

⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore, be alert and sober-minded for prayer. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God. ¹¹ If anyone speaks, let it be as one who speaks God's words; if anyone serves, let it be from the strength God provides, so that God may be glorified through Jesus Christ in everything. To him be the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

1 Peter 4:7-11

List ethical ways believers are to live in light of the end of all things. (7-11)

1.)

2.)

3.)

4.)

5.)

6.)

According to the text each one has received a gift. 1.) What were they to do with it? 2.) What gift have you received? 3.) How are you using it? (10)

How are we to serve one another? (11)

Why are we to serve one another? (11)

A local church is like a human body. It is made up of many parts. It requires all of its parts to work together if it is to function optimally. If you'd like to find out where you can serve speak to one of our elders or deacons and they'll get you involved in a ministry.

Fill in and Return

I have found a place to serve the body: _____

For Further Study

Vital Signs (Alistair Begg) - <https://tinyurl.com/y2sr3vdh>