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## Now That I Have Decided To Follow Jesus . . .



# I Can Have a Great Relationship With the Church



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“Using the Bible To Teach the Bible”

Lesson 3

Bible Studies for New Christians

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### OPENING QUESTIONS

*Acts 2:47*

Does the Lord add the saved to the church? Y N  
Is the church God’s plan? Y N  
If you are a Christian, you are a member of the church by God’s will, not man’s. T F

*Matthew 16:18, 19*

The church and the kingdom are closely tied together. T F  
Can you ignore the church without ignoring the kingdom? Y N

*Ephesians 1:22, 23; 5:23*

The church is the body of Christ. T F  
Christ is the head of the body. T F  
He is the Savior of the body. T F  
To ignore or reject the church is to reject the body of Christ. T F

*1 Timothy 3:15*

The church is God’s family (house). T F

*If someone rejects your family, how does it make you feel?*

*If you reject the family (church) of God, how do you think it makes Him feel?*

**THIS LESSON WILL PRESENT THREE CHALLENGES:**

- A CHALLENGE TO ATTEND
- A CHALLENGE TO FOLLOW
- A CHALLENGE TO SERVE

### CHALLENGE #1: ATTEND

*Hebrews 10:24–26*

Does God command regular assembling? Y N  
Were some first-century Christians forsaking the assembly? Y N

Can you encourage others if you do not meet with them? Y N

*When Christians assemble:*

1. They show their commitment to Jesus. T F
2. They worship a God who is worthy. T F
3. They remember Jesus in a special way in the Lord’s Supper. T F
4. They show their appreciation and thankfulness. T F
5. They encourage others. T F
6. They set a good example. T F
7. They hear and learn the Word of God. T F

*What can you add to this list?*

### CHALLENGE #2: FOLLOW

*Great leaders cannot exist without great followers.*

*Hebrews 13:7, 17*

We are to \_\_\_\_\_ our leaders.  
We are to \_\_\_\_\_ the result of their conduct.  
We are to \_\_\_\_\_ our leaders.  
We are to submit to their \_\_\_\_\_.

Is it to our benefit to make the elders’ work a burden? Y N

What are some ways Christians can help to make the elders’ work a joy?

If a leader teaches something wrong, should we accept it? Y N  
We should remember and obey leaders as they speak the Word of God. T F

### CHALLENGE #3: SERVE

*Serving involves using your resources, blessings, talents, and energy for God.*

*Psalm 24:1, 2*

The earth is the Lord’s. T F

Everything on the earth is the Lord's. T F  
 All who live upon the earth are His. T F

**1 Corinthians 6:19, 20**

Christians belong to God because they were bought with a price. T F  
 Therefore, we honor God with our bodies. T F

**Job 1:20, 21**

What should be your attitude toward all you possess?

*Study the Scriptures and the questions in the chart below, "Four Resources Every Christian Has."*

**SUMMARY & APPLICATION**

*Which of these three challenges presents the most difficulty for you?*

- \_\_\_\_\_ A challenge to attend.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A challenge to follow.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A challenge to serve.

*What have you learned in this lesson?*

*How do you intend to use it?*

*Are you ready to find your place in the body?*

**RESIST THE DEVIL DAILY:**

He does not want you to have a great relationship with the church (1 Peter 5:8).

**EXAMINE THE DEVIL'S SCHEMES:**

He will constantly help you find excuses (Luke 14:18-20).

**SUBMIT TO GOD:**

Can you expect God's help if you fail to love His Son's body? (Ephesians 1:20-23).

**INTERACT WITH OTHER CHRISTIANS:**

Can you be encouraged by the church or encourage others if you fail to assemble with them? (Hebrews 10:24, 25; 3:13).

**SHUN EVIL COMPANIONS:**

If evil companions corrupt good morals, what about good companions? (1 Corinthians 15:33).

**TAKE SATAN SERIOUSLY:**

Use all the spiritual resources that God gives you (2 Timothy 3:16, 17).

**Remember:**

*It is together that we are able to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of God (Ephesians 3:18; NIV).*

**4 RESOURCES EVERY CHRISTIAN HAS**

1. **TIME** (Colossians 4:5; Psalm 90:12)  
 Use time wisely by making \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Use time wisely by numbering your \_\_\_\_\_.

2. **TALENTS** (1 Peter 4:10; Romans 12:1-8)  
 You should use "whatever" gift(s) you have to serve others. T F  
 Do all members of the body have the same function? Y N  
 Each member of the one body belongs to all the others. T F  
 Do your gifts then belong to "others"? Y N

*What are some of your talents and abilities?*

*How might they be used for the good of the body?*

3. **MONEY** (Luke 16:13; 1 Timothy 6:9, 10, 17-19)  
 A Christian cannot serve God and money. T F

What would be some symptoms of someone trying to serve God and money?

What is the root of all evil?

People who want to get rich fall into all kinds of temptations and traps. T F

Being eager for money can cause one to wander from the faith. T F

Those rich in this present world are commanded not to be \_\_\_\_\_.

Does God want you to be generous and willing to share? Y N

How do those who are generous with their resources benefit?

4. **GOD'S WORD** (2 Corinthians 5:17-20)  
 God has given Christians the ministry of reconciliation (rejoining man and God). T F

God has committed to us the word (message) of reconciliation. T F

What metaphor did Paul use to describe our role?

As ambassadors, what message do we take to others?

*How does it make you feel to know that God is trusting you with this powerful word of reconciliation?*