

“To Be Or Not To Be A Church Member”

1 Cor. 12:12-27

INTRODUCTION: What It Means To Be A Part Of The Body Of Christ

- God did not give us local churches to become country clubs where membership means we have privileges and perks. He placed us in churches to serve, to care for others, to pray for leaders, to learn, to teach, to give, and in some cases, to die for the sake of the gospel.
(Thom Rainer)
- Many churches are weak because we have members who have turned the meaning of membership upside down. It's time to get it right. It's time to become a church member as God intended. It's time to give instead of being entitled.
(Thom Rainer)
- Christianity is a corporate matter, and the Christian life can be fully realized only in relationship to others. Love obligates the members of the church to avoid anything that tends to cool love. By this love the nature of the gospel itself is demonstrated.
(Mark Dever)

10 Reasons Why Church Membership Matters:

1. The “One Anothering”_____.
(see: John 13:34-35; Galatians 5:13; Romans 12:10; Romans 12:16; Galatians 6:1; Hebrews 3:13, 10:24; 1 Thessalonians 5:11; 4:18; James 5:16,9; Ephesians 4:32)
2. Our Responsibilities to_____.
(see: Hebrews 13:7,17; Galatians 6:6; 1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13)

3. Clarification.

(See: Acts 2:41-47; Acts 5:14; 1 Corinthians 14:23)

4. Orderliness in the _____.

(see: 1 Cor.14:40; 1 Timothy 3:1-7; 1 Timothy 5:17; 1 Peter 5:1-2, John 10:14)

5. Memberships makes a commitment to Christ _____.

6. To fulfill your _____.

7. To fulfill your ministry_____.

8. Accountability.

(see: Psalm 141:5; Proverbs 9:8-9; Proverbs 12:1; Hebrews 3:12-13; Hebrews 10:24-25)

9. Decisions about _____.

10. The _____.

CONCLUSION: I Have A Dream Of A Living Church!

(John Stott)

- Such is my dream of a living church. May all of us here at Avon Community Church share this dream and under God may the dream come true!
- Once you have come to Christ, I would encourage you to seek out church membership in a local church so that you may be fed from the Word, benefit from the counsel and leadership of the elders, and participate in the many ministries of the church.

(Wayne Mack)