

WHAT GOD WANTS HIS FAMILY TO DO

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 **2 Corinthians 6:17-18**

Introduction: There are two things required to be a member of a local Baptist Church: a public profession of faith and to immersed in baptism as Jesus was. Believing in Jesus brings a person into God's family and baptism brings one into a local Baptist Church. However God also has some things He wants His family to be doing while they are still down here.

I. WHAT GOD WANTS HIS FAMILY TO DO

1. Study the Bible: *"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."*
 - We are to be familiar with the Bible.
 - We are to let the teachings of the bible become our way of life.
2. Live holy lives: *1 Peter 1:13-17* *Hebrews 12:10-17*
 - We are different from other people after becoming a Christian.
 - We live by different rules than the rest of the world.
3. Be consistent in prayer: *1 Thessalonians 5:17* *James 5:16*
 - God's family has much to pray for.
 - There are many "ways" we can pray.
4. Be faithful in witnessing: *Acts 1:8; 8:1-4*
 - We are not to be partial in sharing our faith.
 - Every Christian is expected to witness and is enabled to witness by the Holy Spirit.
5. Be faithful in attending Church services: *Hebrews 10:25*
 - It is our Lord's special Day and we belong to Him, therefore we need to spend it with Him.
 - We need the instruction and encouragement we get when we attend.
 - We need to fellowship with each other for after all, we are a family.
6. Be liberal in giving: *1 Corinthians 9:11-14* *John 3:14-15* *Numbers 18:20-18*
 - We are to financially support the work of our Church.
 - What we give supports the ministries of our Church.
 - Giving creates growth in us as we give.

II. WHY DOES GOD WANT THESE THINGS FROM HIS FAMILY?

1. *1 Peter 1:18-20*
 - We have been bought with God's Son's blood and therefore belong to Him.
 - We have given ourselves to God completely in exchange for Salvation.

III. WHY DOES GOD'S FAMILY WANT TO DO WHAT GOD WANTS THEM TO DO?

1. Out of love for God, God's family will try to do everything God wants of them. **John 14:15**
 - God is our Heavenly Father, Jesus is our elder Brother, and we are a Family, therefore we do whatever our Heavenly Father wants because we are a Family.
2. We are assured that God will enable us to do even more and better good works when we do what He asks of us. **2 Corinthians 9:8**
 - None of us can do as good on our own as we need to, so we need God's assistance.
 - Doing what God, our Heavenly Father wants reflects our ongoing relationship with Him and with His/our Heavenly Family.

CONCLUSION:

1. Every Church has people's names on it's roll who do not attend services regularly, some a few times a year, and for some, it's been years. Actions reveal sincerity and obedience.
2. Jesus reminds us that "talk is cheap" and we can know who is "family" and who is not by their way of life (fruits). **"Not everyone who says 'Lord, Lord'"** belongs to God's Family.
3. Each member of God's Family is accountable to God ONLY FOR HIM/HERSELF. In all sincerity and honesty, how do you think God rates your obedience and sincerity in doing what has been required and expected of you?
4. If a person is NOT a member of God's Family, then nothing is expected.
5. Are you a member of God's Family according to GOD'S qualifications and standards?