

How to Find the Right Church

Majority of the churchgoers attend their local church under acute ignorance and enslavement of tradition. Their decisive factor for selection is due from unimportant influence of people under personal biases and prejudices. The basis for choosing the local church is always poles apart from biblical standards. The preference of the crowd is based on the visible and tangible things that provide false satisfaction from religious life.

People go to church because of good music, charming and dynamic preachers, comfortable, classy, or fine facilities, popularity of the local church, social status of the people in attendance, and social services offered by the local church. It is alarming that people are not concerned about the doctrinal stand of the church to where they belong. Not more than one percent (1%) of those who were surveyed considered the teaching of the church as important factor for selecting their church.

Majority of the churchgoers regarded the genuine Bible doctrine as divisive and intimidating to others. Churches that defend Bible doctrine are considered as hostile people who reject the divine mandate to love one another. They ignorantly advocate the ecumenical love, accepting the human viewpoint that Bible doctrine separates people. In reality, only true Bible doctrine can unite people of any race, culture, background and differences.

The church doctrines invented by men are the divisive factor and not the Bible doctrine. A new trend in selecting local church has arise not based on doctrinal position but for many humanistic reasons. People hop from one church to another looking for their most perfect church.

People go for modern and contemporary style of worship that satisfies their carnal senses, emotion and ego. They ignore the theology of worship as long as it exalts the worshipers rather than exalting God.

The name, denomination, doctrines and leadership are not important to many ignorant churchgoers. They go for church with sensational worship.

Faulty reasons for selecting local church in 50 countries in Europe and Asia:

- Popularity of the church
- Popularity of the preacher
- Celebrated singers & musicians
- Contemporary music
- Good facilities
- Popularity of members
- Social services
- Church programs
- Ecstatic worship
- Humanistic ministries
- Big attendance
- Miracles & healing oriented church

People go for a church that promotes unity of all churches. In the late 70s the compromise of many churches was in the area of world evangelism. In the 80s, the point of compromise was in the matter of world mission. Churches then joined and cooperated with the task of soul winning and mission regardless of their doctrinal stands. Today the compromise is in the aspect of ecumenism.. Churches today are all unified in church style of worship that leaves out Bible doctrine and God.

Churches today are man-centered as well as music centered. The so-called music ministers have dethroned God and have taken away the role of the preachers, while pastors are now taking the role of praise and worship leaders. People go for church where the only acceptance is attendance. The gauge of success in the churches today is big attendance.

Big crowd is the bait that keeps people coming back. Big attendance is the center of their success. The gimmick is how to make the attendance continuously increasing regardless of doctrinal errors and leadership abuses.

They care less about Biblical rejection and doctrinal heresy or on-going corruption. People go for easy to understand Bible teachings, easy to understand messages that are always out of context. Such people have been hypnotized and does not think or search the validity of their teaching. People go for church that entertains rather than edify the body of Christ.

They sacrifice the Truth for performances centered worship. People go for the church with multi-social programs for everyone. They have something for everybody. There are endless activities for the whole year like slimming class, photography class, basketball team, and many others.

. People go for church where they do not understand what they are doing. They are sincere and faithful but they are sincerely and faithfully wrong. If only they will come to the point of realization that what they are doing is wrong. They are not taught to think but rather trained to follow blindly without thinking. They believe every teaching of their leaders without careful examination of its truthfulness.

People go for church that gives way to the clamoring, demands and requests of the people. The leaders listen and accept the biased demands of those who are contributing big amount of money to their ministries. People go for the church where the preaching is always man-centered and pleasing to the ears. People go for the church with dynamic man-pleasing pastors who pamper their members with complementary remarks.

Nominal Christians falls prey to these local churches. The greatest weapon of Satan is deception and lies. Satan has promoted pseudo-Christianity wrapped in liberalism or legalism. He is making the fake churches look like genuine, and he is making the true churches either liberal or legalistic.

The universal Church is unique (Ephesians 5:25-27) because it is the only institution founded by God through the spiritual death of Jesus Christ on the a cross. The Head of the Church is the Lord Jesus Christ and He alone is responsible for its founding and establishment. There was no contribution or collaboration from any human being. No imperfect contributions from imperfect men were involved.

The universal Church is composed of all believers from the time Christ bestowed the baptism of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost until the Rapture of the Church prior to the Great Tribulation. Every Church Age believer is uniquely under the divine system of privileges bestowed by the grace of God. Such believers belong to a highly superior position of great opportunity being the nobility of heaven temporarily residing on earth. They hold the rights and privileges of heaven because of Jesus Christ.

The only legitimate members of the universal Church are the regenerated believers regardless of color, race, status and social background. An individual may legitimately belong to a local church but not a member of the Body of Christ (universal Church). The local church, in biblical perspective is composed of regenerate believers from all walks of life. The local church is not a building, not an organization but a composite of believers redeemed by the precious blood of Christ.

Christ designed the local church (Ephesians 4:11-14) as the classroom for the Bible doctrine not a stage for entertaining people. The priority of every local church is the proclamation of the Gospel and the communication of the Bible doctrine. God designed the local church as a venue for knowing Him and His perfect will through systematic, progressive, consistent, and diligent intake of Bible doctrine.

The devil has been diverting the spiritual purpose of the local church by making it as a circus of entertainment with religious connotation.

God has ordained the local church for the purpose of evangelization and building-up of the members through doctrinal studies. Religion has tagged various ministries that were not ordained by God, such as school sponsored by the church, scholarship aids, day care center, and numerous social ministries. Religions have gone beyond what is written by inventing ministries not mandated by God.

Majority of believers today shun away from genuine Bible doctrine and despise those who diligently pay attention to it. Bible doctrine is the only spiritual food of the soul and genuine Christians will search for Bible doctrine (1 Peter 2:2). The local church must constantly provide the believers with Bible doctrine.

For further discussion on this topic see:

The Examiners Vo. 4 No. 2

- a) <http://dikaosune.com/documents/examiners4-2.pdf>
- b) <http://dikaosune.com/Examiners22.php>



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