

# BASIC MESSAGE

July 15, 2004

## DON'T GO TO CHURCH - BE THE CHURCH

People often talk about going to church as if that is what the Christian life is all about. The Bible does not tell followers of Jesus to go to church. It says, we're The Church. Being The Church is something we live. We're, the temple of the Holy Spirit. We are Christ bodily presence on earth. We should be salt and light wherever we go. It starts with our hearts, and is demonstrated in what we do each day.

First, we must love God with all our heart soul and mind.

Second, we must love those around us (our neighbors) as much as we love ourselves.

Third, we as believers are to show the world we are Jesus' disciple by the way we love each other.

This means, as we have opportunity we do good to all men especially those who are fellow believers. We seek opportunities to be salt and light by praying for people, sharing an encouraging word, or ministering to needs when we're able.

To help us do this the Bible tells us we should first spend time with God daily in the word and prayer. Then we should get together regularly with fellow believers to stir up love and good works in each other. It's more than attending a "church meeting" on Sunday to fulfill our religious duty. We need to spend time each day with fellow believers in our family sharing and praying for one another. We should get together regularly with other believers where we work, in our neighborhood, or where we go to school, and share and pray for each other. If we are a leader, we need to get together with other leaders for fellowship and prayer. This will help us live out The Gospel in our daily life. It will enable us to be the salt and light God intended His Church to be.

**THE ONLY HOPE OF THE WORLD IS FOR THE CHURCH TO BE THE CHURCH!!**

**BASIC Question:**

Do the people around you know you are a follower of Jesus?

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**If you would like to know more about how to be The Church,  
please contact us.**

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Luke 8:5-15