

Kings Week 49

- I. God does not always answer prayer the way we would like
- A. There will be times where it appears God is not _____
 - B. God is _____ at work answering prayer
 - C. There will be times where answered prayer makes things "worse"
 - D. God's way will not always make _____ to us
- II. God will judge those who choose the path of wickedness
- A. God's timing is _____ than out timing
 - B. God wants His children to live by faith
 - C. God will repay those who _____ evil
- III. God can work today just as He worked in the past
- A. Remembering the _____ encourages us for the future
 - B. God's way will not always be _____
- IV. Faith in God will always give us a reason to rejoice
- A. Our joy should not be based on our _____
 - B. Our joy should be _____ in the Lord

CONCLUSION

- Do you trust that God is _____ your prayers?
- Are you giving the wicked over to God?
- Do you realize that God is still _____ at work today?
- Are you choosing to _____ in God?

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Why have church membership? Why become a church member? (Part 1)

There is no command or reference in the Bible to a church having an official membership role. Since it is not a biblical command an official church membership role is just a manmade concept. So why should we do it?

1. Members place themselves in a position of accountability

Ephesians 5:21 says, “submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.” There are other references in the New Testament that talk about the importance of submitting ourselves to each other. Though this can be done without official church membership, the choice to become a member is step that puts a person under greater accountability to their fellow believers. By choosing to become a member, you are placing yourself under the authority of the local church and choosing to follow the rules and guidelines put forth by the church. By agreeing to the church constitution and the church covenant, you are letting others know that you want them to hold you accountable if they see areas in your life that are not conforming to what the Scripture teaches.

2. Members find a place of greater belonging

Galatians 6:10 says, “So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.” A church is more than just a group of people who meet together, but they are a family. For instance, foster children are often loved and cared for by foster family, but when a family chooses to adopt a child and that child agrees, the child finds greater belonging and greater sense of security. The family will often treat an adopted child slightly different than they treat a foster child which is natural. This does not mean the church should treat non-members as less important, but the natural flow of life lends towards greater relationships among those who choose to be officially part of the same family.

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