





# COMMUNITY GUIDE

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## WEEKLY APPLICATION

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**TAKEAWAY:** Within the present anti-church climate, we must attempt to answer, “Why go to church?”

**HEAD CHANGE:** How we think about ‘church’ shapes the type of church we become.

**HEART CHANGE:** Faiths journey is meant to be done together.

**LIFE CHANGE:** What does it mean for you to live with Jesus’ body in mind?

## OVERVIEW

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### Why Go to Church?

At some point along the way, we have trained Christians to be demanding consumers, not disciples. Do we really just go to church for our own benefits? Doesn’t doing so merely perpetuate the consumerist culture that has caused so many to abandon church? There must be far more beautiful and deeply meaningful rationale for going to church beyond what we can get. Right? Within the present anti-church climate, we must attempt to answer, “Why go to church?” What do you tell your friends or perhaps your parents or children who no longer go but wonder why you do? What is being proposed is not a series of reasons why you might want to go to church but why you should go to church. That’s not a bad thing ... an old philosophical dictum suggests that love follows knowledge, the heart needs a vision ... So what can be a vision, a reason for going to church and committing ourselves to a group of very flawed men and women and agreeing to journey with them for the rest of our lives?

**Romans 12:2 (NLT)** - *Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by **changing the way you think**. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.*

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What stood out to you in this teaching? Why do you think that resonated?
2. When it comes to the way you think about church, are your thought and actions more like a consumer or disciple?
3. When is the last time you needed “carried”? Did you have a community to carry you? Why or why not?
4. How does “praying about where to sit” help align us more with Jesus’ vision for the church to be a deeply relational “body of Christ”?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

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Father, we can’t do any of this without You. Thank You for revealing the finished work of Jesus to us. May we live with a greater understanding of your grace and approval on our lives because of what Jesus has done. If there are any areas of our lives that are captured by pride, reveal that to me now, I repent and ask for your humility to walk with you and obey you in response to your love and grace toward me. Help me to see your church like you see your church. In Jesus’ name, amen.

**IN THIS TOGETHER!**