

WEEKLY GAME PLAN

Don't Ghost The Gathering

Read 1 Corinthians 12:27, Ephesians 1:22-23 NIV

Context: The 7 Hour Walk series leads us in ways that we can spend 7 hours of our week walking together with Jesus. This time we will be focusing on how spending 1.5 hours in church each week can lead us to become the Church that Christ created us to be. Some of us may have experienced great church hurt because church is made up of people. But the beautiful part is that church can also be a place of great healing. We get to meet Jesus here together. We may not always want to come to church, but we need to remember, we always are the Church.

1. Commune- 2 hours
2. Church- 1.5 hours
3. Connect- 1.5 hours
4. Contribute- 0 hours
5. Corner- 2 hours

Reflection Question: How can you prioritize attending church, knowing you are the church? What do you think Jesus means when He says that you are the church? Why is this important in the world?

Read Hebrews 10:23-25 NLT, Ephesians 4:11-12 NLT, Ephesians 6:17, Hebrews 5:11-14 MSG

Context: The Biblical role of the church is to equip us, not to entertain us. We come together each week to worship together, to encourage each other, to pray for each other, to learn from each other and to be taught more of the scriptures. We need to consider how we can become better equipped each week we attend church, so that we are better able to minister to those around us, so we are better able to share our God-stories with those around us. Let's not come to church to see a show. Let's attend church like it's a training ground, because that's what it is. It's time for us to grow up, especially those of us who have been believers for longer.

Reflection Question: What goals do you have when you attend church? What more would you get out of church if you were trying to become prepared in church? What's the next step you know the Holy Spirit is leading you into?

Read Matthew 5:14-16 ESV

Context: How we live our lives is the #1 reason why someone will accept your invitation to church, or continue to deny it. We have a responsibility to show the world how knowing Jesus has changed our lives for the better. Our homes, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces should all be brighter because we are there.

Reflection Question: What's different about the places where you spend the most time because you are there? What about your life would be a good reason for someone to accept your invitation to church?

Read Matthew 6:19-21 ESV, Luke 6:38 NLT

Context: A lot of times we don't reach out and invite people to church because we don't want to get involved. We have so much going on already, we think we can't possibly afford one more thing, one more conversation, one more person to know, one more ask for help. But Jesus tells us that the more we give to others, the more we are given. He will give us what we need to do His will. The devil loves when we focus more on keeping what we have, our money, time, personal space, than we do on our Messiah.

Reflection Question: What fears do you have about inviting someone to church, or building more relationships with those people in church?

Read John 13:15, 18 NLT, Colossians 3:12-13 NLT

Context: We have high expectations for people in the church. And when those expectations go unmet, or are utterly destroyed, it can be hard to come back from that. What we need to remember is that we will be forgiven as we forgive. We need to forgive others as Christ forgave us. We can find healing for our church hurt in our church.

Reflection Question: How is Jesus going to help you heal this week? How can you be open with someone you trust about your hurts? What unmet expectations have you been holding onto that you know it's time to let go of?

End in prayer. Be honest with Jesus this week about how you need Him to heal your hurts. He can take it.