

Some Assembly Required

“Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.” Hebrews 10:25 (NAS)

I. Introduction

*“Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell even in the finest tents of the wicked.**” Psalm 84:10*

Key thought: The ability to go to the House of the Lord needs to _____!

II. The 5 Things We Find In a Church Home

1. We can expect to find _____ *“From whom the whole body, **joined and held together by every joint** with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.” Ephesians 4:16 (ESV)*

*“He (the Lord) makes the whole body fit together perfectly. **As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow,** so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” Eph. 4:16*

*“When the day of Pentecost came, **they were all together in one place.**” Acts 2:1*

2. The local church is a place where _____ *“Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. **But exhort one another every day,** as long as it is called “today,” that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have come to share in Christ, if indeed we hold our original confidence firm to the end.” Hebrews 3:12 (ESV)*

“Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” Acts 2:46-47

*“And **they all continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship,** in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.” Acts 2:42 (NKJV)*

3. The local church is a place of spiritual _____ *“So guard yourselves and God’s people. Feed and shepherd God’s flock—his church, purchased with his own blood—over which the Holy Spirit has appointed you as elders. **I know that false teachers, like vicious wolves, will come in among you after I leave, not sparing the flock. Even some men from your own group will rise up and distort the truth in order to draw a following.** So, watch out!” Acts 20:28-31 (NLT)*

“Two people are better off than one, for they can help each other succeed. If one person falls, the other can reach out and help. But someone who falls alone is in real trouble. Likewise, two people lying close together can keep each other warm. But how can one be warm alone? A person standing

alone can be attacked and defeated, but two can stand back-to-back and conquer. Three are even better, for a triple-braided cord is not easily broken.” **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 (NLT)**

4. The local church is a place of spiritual _____ “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, **teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom**, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to the Lord.” **Colossians 3:16**

“In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers...While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” So after they had fasted and prayed, they laid hands on them and sent them off.” **Acts 13:1-3**

5. The local church is a place of spiritual _____ “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

II Timothy 3:16-17

“Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.” **Hebrews 13:17**

6. The local church is a place of spiritual _____ “Some men came, bringing to Jesus a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.” **Mark 2:3**

7. The local church is a place of supernatural _____
“For **wherever two or three are gathered** together in My name, I am there in the midst of them” **Matthew 18:20 (NRSV)**

“After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly. All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.” **Acts 4:31-35**

Answer Key:

Key thought: The ability to go to the House of the Lord needs to appreciated !

1. connection

2. discipleship happens daily

3. protection

4. direction

5. correction

6. elevation

7. encounter