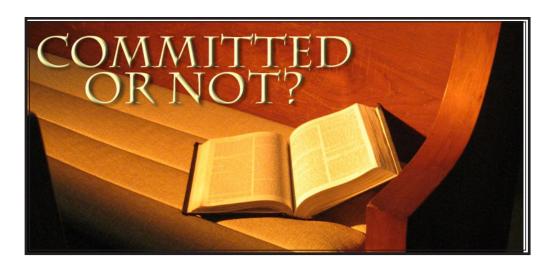


"A-MEN": MEN LIVING IN ACCOUNTABILITY!



A MAN AND HIS CHURCH

"A-MEN": MEN LIVING IN ACCOUNTABILITY!

Accountable for time in God's Word!

<u>Read</u>: Matthew 5:1-16 and write out an Attitude to Change, a Command to Obey, a Truth to Believe, or a Sin to Confess.

Accountable for Learning Together!

Weekly Lesson: "Committed or Not? (A Man and His Church)"

Lets face it. Commitment is not what it used to be. There was a time when a man stayed married to the same woman his entire life, lived in the same town, attended the same church, and worked at the same company his entire career. Those kinds of men seem to be an endangered species these days. There are just very few men who are willing to stay committed to anything for very long.

Commitments certainly do vary. A commitment to a town, a job, or even a church, is not the same as that of a marriage. There is, however, a difference between making a commitment and changing it and never making a commitment to begin with. I see this very thing happening with Christian men and Christ's church. Changing your commitment to a specific church is one thing; Not being committed to any church is another!

Let's take a few minutes to consider why being to a local church is still important.

Being connected to the head means being connected to the body! Sometimes I talk to people who are quick to tell me they are committed to Christ, but not committed to His Church. That is wrong! If you are committed to the Head, you will also be committed to the rest of the body. In Colossians 1:18 Paul Says, "And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy."

Every body needs its parts and every part needs a body! That statement may sound strange but it is true. Your body is made up of different parts that all have a place in your body. The same is true with the Body of Christ. First Corinthians 12:27 says, *"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."* If you are a Christian and not committed to the body of believers, the church will suffer! Do not let the church be handicapped because you are not in your place.

Every believer needs to be committed to a local body of Christ. Find a place that you can believe in, join, and get involved!

1) Do you think being committed to a local church means less today than it once did? Why or why not?

2) What causes people to stay "uncommitted" to Christ's church today?

3) Why is being committed to a local body of believers important in God's eyes?

Accountable to Each Other

Use the following questions as a guide to help you stay accountable to each other in the coming week:

-Describe your time in God's Word this past week.

-Where have you struggled this past week?

-Where have you seen progress this past week?