

Why Do I Get So Little Out Of Worship?

- Bill Jackson (deceased) -

My cousin, returning from World War II, stopped off to visit and attended worship with us. He had come from a non-religious background, and it is doubtful that he had ever attended the services held by the chaplains, weak as they were. I have seen few people so miserable in my life as was that cousin when we were in worship. Hardly any verse could be mentioned or read that he had ever heard of; he knew nothing of the New Testament church or the proper divisions of the Bible. He had no idea as to the items of New Testament worship, or that Christianity was a life to be lived outside the services. He indicated he obtained nothing from the Bible study and worship. Of course he put nothing into it either.

Well, in his ignorance of all things pertaining to the Bible, it is understandable that he "got nothing from the worship." Of much more concern are those in the kingdom, some for years, who will still state, "I get so little out of worship!"

We firmly believe the same point is true that relates to that cousin of mine; we get something out only when we put something in. There is no excuse for a child of God to come to worship and study with nothing, putting in nothing, and then expecting anything but nothing.

Just think of these points as we approach worship and study as a child of God:

1. Every song can remind me of Biblical truths and my need to feel more appreciation for God and His efforts for me.
2. Every Bible verse given in classes and worship has a lesson for me, and should remind me of similar verses, and especially of my own need to know more of the Bible.
3. Everything expressed in prayer should remind me of my own blessings, and of my own praying and how I can improve it.
4. Every point made in song, prayer, and remarks at the Lord's Table should cause me to be more thankful for the sacrifice of the Christ and make me more appreciative of His death and shed blood.
5. Participation in giving to the Lord's cause should awaken in me greater appreciation and love for the kingdom, in work, and for the part I can have in it.

Even in the announcements made, I can see opportunities for service in seeing the sick, shut-ins, and the bereaved, to say nothing of opportunities to greet and welcome visitors and newcomers. **Getting nothing out of services? You should be ashamed of yourself.**

The fact is, I get something only when and if I put in something. If I come to worship with an empty bucket, with nothing in it, and by lack of interest block anything that starts to enter it, I will leave with an empty bucket. Keep it up, and the bottom will rust out completely.

Life's greatest tragedy is to lose God and never miss Him.

News & Notes

SYMPATHY: To Emma Rine at the recent passing of a cousin, and to Lois Hissom at the passing of an uncle. God bless and comfort these ladies.

NEW CONVERT CLASS: Each Sunday a.m. Bible Class in Room 401.

CARE & SHARE BEARS: Each Tuesday at 9:00 a.m. All ladies are invited to participate.

MEN'S ENRICHMENT CLASS: Each Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. for 1 hour. Men, come and study together with other men of the church.

GOPEL MEETINGS:

Weirton Heights.....**Oct. 14-18 (Mon-Fri - 7:00 p.m.)** Dan Kessinger

Hanoverton.....**Oct. 21-25 (Mon-Thur - 7:30 p.m.)**..... Will Montgomery

TO HAVE SURGERY: Jenny Rhodes is scheduled for knee surgery next **Wednesday, Oct. 17th** at Sewickley Hospital followed by two weeks rehab elsewhere.

PIZZA & BOWLING: Those interested will meet **Friday, October 19th at 5:30 p.m.**, first at Pizza Hut on St. Clair Ave., ELO, and then at Walnut Lanes on Walnut St. in downtown East Liverpool. Sign-up sheet on the desk.

MEMBER VISITS: Elders and Minister visits with members can be scheduled in your home or to meet here at the building by signing the sheet on the desk, or arrange an appointment by talking to Rico.

PANTRY: Canned peas, limas and beets.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS: Rosemary Hornbeck [brain hemorrhage], she is Iris Durbin's sister-in-law. **Mike Rice** [liver scan], he is Lois Hissom's brother.

SEND CARDS:

Alex Harless, 1322 North 4th Street, Toronto, OH 43964.

Bob & Patty Eddy (Bob is undergoing cancer treatments and Patty is recovering from an auto accident). Their address: 4898 Oroszy Ave., Lorain, OH 44052.

SICK & SHUT-IN: Ernie Robinson, Charlie Delong, Bill & Carol Stillwell, Russell Martin, Blondenia Orr, Doris Dunham, Alex Harless. **FOX NURSING HOME:** Mary Jane Bowers (Room 19). **CROSSROADS:** Sarah Miller. **AUBURN NURSING HOME, SALEM, OH:** Jim Mick. **IN FLORIDA:** Ilene Rayl.

When Life Caves In

John Newton signed on with a slave ship leaving Africa with its "cargo." He was an experienced sailor and navigator but his cursing and blaspheming turned hardened sailors' ears red.

Soon the ship was caught in a horrible storm and was taking water. The crew had to pump 24 hours a day to stay afloat. But the constant wind rocked the boat so dangerously that the sailors had to tie themselves to the deck to keep from being swept overboard. At one point, several of the crew tried to throw Newton overboard. They figured that God was punishing him like Jonah of the Old Testament.

The captain declared that the only way the ship would make it to safe harbor was by God's power. He commanded everyone, including Newton, to pray.

"God, if You're true," Newton prayed earnestly, "make good Your Word. Cleanse my vile heart."

After four weeks of storms and constant brushes with death, the ship limped into an Irish port. John Newton, former "free thinker," former slave trader, and atheist, declared his faith in Jesus. He became a well known writer. In fact, you know at least one of his songs: "Amazing Grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see."

