

5 ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT GOD AND WHY THEY ARE WRONG

SESSION 3: “ALL GOD WANTS ME TO DO IS GO TO CHURCH”



IN THIS SESSION

This Session will help debunk the myth that the goal of living as a follower of Jesus is to attend church. It will not only offer a critique of this misconception but will look to carve out a better and more thoroughly biblical vision of God’s desires for us.



KEY PASSAGES

- **Philippians 2:5-8** ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.
- **Hebrews 10:24-25** ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, all the more as you see the Day drawing near.



DISCUSS

- In the Session, we heard the following rhetorical question: “What if we took all that passion [for finding fulfillment in time with another person] and instead of having a vibrant and interactive relationship we said, ‘Let’s meet once a week?’” As you reflect on this, take a moment to think through a few of the key relationships you have in your life. What makes these so special to you? How do your thoughts about them reinforce the reality of the preceding statement in your life?
- What kind of church might result from a mindset that holds church attendance as “the biggest deal?” Consider listing a few features of this kind of church or some adjectives that would describe it. Conversely, what kind of church might result if the church is “a part of a relational process, not the basis of it?” Compare and contrast these mental pictures. What differences stick out to you the most and why? Which church would you be more drawn to?
- Reread Hebrews 10:24-25 (see *Key Passages* above). How might the importance of “going to church” be reinvented in light of God’s desire for a functional relationship? What role does gathering followers of Jesus play in the ongoing facilitation of that relationship? In other words, what are some of God’s goals for encouraging Christ-followers to gather and why is this important for your growth specifically?



PRAY

- Pray that God give you a fresh perspective on the importance of gathering together with others in the church—the community of Christ-followers who look to love and serve Jesus together. Reflect on God’s vision of the church in Ephesians 4:11-16 as you invest in your relationship with him through prayer.