

CHURCH ETTIQUETTE (A code of conduct)

1. **COME:** Never miss church unless it is absolutely necessary.
George Washington's pastor said of him, "No company ever kept him from church."
Heb 10:25 Not forsaking *or* neglecting to assemble together [*as believers*], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching.
2. **COME EARLY:** Rushing into church at the last minute is not conducive to true worship!
Lev 19:30 You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary. I am the Lord.
3. **COME WITH YOUR WHOLE FAMILY:**
"The church service is not a convention that a family should merely send a delegate."
Josh. 24:15 "... But as for me and my family, we will serve the LORD."
4. **TAKE A PLACE TOWARD THE FRONT OF CHURCH:**
"Leave the rear seats for those who may come late, mothers with children and backsliders."
1Ti 4:15 Practice *and* cultivate *and* meditate upon these duties; throw yourself wholly into them [*as your ministry*], so that your progress may be evident to everybody.
5. **BE DEVOUT:** (Deep commitment) "The church is not a theater or place of amusement. You come to worship God, not to whisper, lounge or sleep. God's house deserves our very utmost reverence."
Eccl. 5:1 KEEP YOUR foot [*give your mind to what you are doing*] when you go [*as Jacob to sacred Bethel*] to the house of God. For to draw near to hear *and* obey is better than to give the sacrifice of fools [*carelessly, irreverently*] too ignorant to know that they are doing evil.
6. **HELP VISITORS/GUESTS TO FIND AND FOLLOW THE SERVICE:**
"If they have no Bible, share yours with them, Sing! Join in the worship! Don't just sit!"
Psa 100:2 Serve the Lord with gladness! Come before His presence with singing!
7. **ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT VISITORS ARE THE GUESTS OF THE CHURCH MEMBERS.**
"Treat them with the same courtesy as you would if they should visit in your home."
1Jn 3:18 Little children, let us not love [*merely*] in theory *or* in speech but in deed and in truth (in practice and in sincerity).
8. **GIVE A GOOD OFFERING TO GOD: 2Cor. 9:7** ...for God loveth a cheerful giver.
Mat 10:8...*freely ye have received, freely give.*
9. **NEVER RUSH FOR THE DOOR:** After service is dismissed, speak and be spoken to. Be friendly and courteous.
Gal 6:10 As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.
10. **NEVER STAY AWAY FROM CHURCH BECAUSE THE CHURCH IS NOT PERFECT:**
"How lonesome you would feel in a perfect church, since there would be no-one there!"
Heb 6:1a Therefore let us go on and get past the elementary stage in the teachings *and* doctrine of Christ (the Messiah), advancing steadily toward the completeness *and* perfection that belong to spiritual maturity.