

## Leviticus 22:31 (MSG)

***“Do what I tell you; live what I tell you. I am GOD.”***

What if we went to church on Sunday or to a bible study actually intending to do what we were taught, how different would we be and how different would our relationship with the Lord be? What if we “did” and “lived” what God spoke to us? ***“Do what I tell you; live what I tell you. I am GOD.”***

But there are times when we go to church with our own agenda. I know I am just as guilty as everyone else because I go to church on Sunday, being a part of the worship team, with the main purpose of worshipping the Lord and bringing others into His presence to worship Him. Which is not a bad thing, because that is the gift the Holy Spirit has given me. But anyone who is a servant in the church has to be careful, because if we go with the intent of only serving, we become a bunch of Martha’s wanting to be busy. busy, busy, about the Lord’s business, so we think. But in our business, we can become so engulfed in it that at times we can make it all about us and what we need to do that Sunday in church, instead realizing we too need to sit at Jesus’ feet, like Mary was and listen, and she did so because she wanted to learn from her Savior, Jesus.

† ***Luke 10:41-42 And Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. But one thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."***

Yet some go to church or a bible study with the mindset of, *“I’m a Christian, and isn’t that what Christians do, go to church on Sunday and bible studies.”* Which is true, but if you are only going because you think you have to because you are a Christian, which is not the right attitude. It would be like saying, *“I’ll go visit my parents because they are my parent’s and isn’t that what grown up kid supposed to do?”* or it would be like saying, *“I guess I have to love Jesus, or I won’t go to heaven, so I’ll say I love Jesus so I can go to heaven.”* But that sort of thinking is backwards as well. Because we should love Jesus, period, and the reward for loving Him is that we get to go to heaven, because we love Him. Just like we get to go to church because we get to spend time together with the Lord as a family.

I remember as a kid I loved going to my grandma’s home and we did almost every weekend. You see, my grandma was from Mexico, and she made the best Mexican food I ever had. Nothing was from a can or a package, not even the tortillas, everything was made from scratch, and tasted amazing. But I not only loved her cooking, but I loved my grandma too and enjoyed just being with her, even if it was watching her cook or watching bullfighting or Mexican wrestling on TV with her.

Shouldn’t we have that same attitude when we go to church, having the Holy Spirit being the one who has prepared a meal for us that is served through the pastor? Shouldn’t we be going, not only because we get feed spiritually, but we also get to spend time with our God and Savior as a family. Sure, we may be doing in the church. But are we not to go to church to be equipped in the word?

† **Ephesians 4:12** *for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

Think of going to the grocery store once a week, and we do so, so that we can equip our frigs and pantries with food for the week. What if we went to church with that same mindset of going to church to equip our spiritual frigs and pantries, being equipped to do the work the Lord has called us to do. But not only that, but to be changed as the food we get at church, helps builds us up to be more like Jesus, and less like the world.

So let's pray each Sunday morning or before going to a bible study, *"Lord, I am going to church or this bible study to be with my spiritual family and to serve. But I also do not want to go there and leave there the same way I was when I got there. But rather, I want to walk away changed more into the image of my Savior Jesus Christ. So open my ears and the understanding of my heart, and may I walk away different in the way You want me to be different. In Jesus Name I pray. AMEN!"*

† **Galatians 3:27 (NLT2)** *And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on the character of Christ, like putting on new clothes.*

† **Ephesians 5:14** *Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light."*