



## QA: What If a Christian Isn't Getting Anything From Church? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

**QUESTION: What if a Christian isn't getting anything out of being in the local church?**

**ANSWER: We get out of church what we put into it (2 Corinthians 9:6)**

1. **Because of the Day of Judgment**, God "now commands all men everywhere to repent" (**Acts 17:30-31**). Each individual is responsible for his, or her, own soul, so Jesus commanded disciples to

"Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned." (**Mark 16:15-16**)

Since "the Lord added to the church daily those who were saved" (**Acts 2:47**), we should identify with the local church/ congregation for our own edification, as Saul of Tarsus did (**Acts 9:26**). Thus we should submit to each other (**Ephesians 5:21; Philippians 2:3**). For spiritual growth, we should admonish one another (**Romans 15:14**), and be willing to repent and pray for forgiveness of our sins (**Acts 8:22**).

2. **To walk away from the local church when there needs to be admonition & repentance & forgiveness leaves a problem with no solution, thus denying needed spiritual growth!** Demas left Paul but not for a good reason (**2 Timothy 4:9-10**). Paul and Barnabas separated over a judgment about Mark, (**Acts 15:36-40**), but later Mark, Barnabas' cousin (**Colossians 4:10**), was faithfully working with Paul. Those who leave the local church without learning how to grow spiritually will remain one talent brethren!
3. **Carefully read 1 Corinthians 16:1-20**, and with all the people and works cited, the bottom line is, "Greet one another with a holy kiss." In other words, nothing we do for the Lord's cause should keep us aloof from one another!!! See Paul's last thought in **1 Corinthians 16:24**. Every congregation is lacking something(s) and needs to keep growing and loving. Paul's letters to the churches prove that, and Jesus' instructions to the churches of Asia, **Revelation 1-3** seal the deal! **No one leaves one church for a more perfect church; and people who think they do don't make a mature decision, but keep themselves from maturing in the faith.**
4. **Only Jesus Christ can judge a congregation.** Paul addressed letters to "the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints who are in Achaia" (**1**

**Corinthians 1:1**). Why did Paul explain how to resolve matters of faith to the Corinthians and not just tell the faithful to leave the unfaithful and go to a “faithful” church? **Leaving an unsolved problem is never a solution unless there is a resolution!**

— *jtp11, January 15, 2023*