

Kingdom Training Level 1: Six Essential Habits of a Disciple

Habit 5: Preparing To Meet Together As A Body!

1. Meeting Together Is Our PRIORITY

- Seek first God's Kingdom (Matthew 6:33) because Jesus is LORD!
- Prepare to encourage each other; our HABIT is to meet together (Hebrews 10:24-25)

2. Meeting Together With The RIGHT ATTITUDE *"acceptably with reverence & awe"* (Hebrews 12:28-29)

3. Meeting Together Is Our CONVICTION and PASSION (Acts 2:42-47)

- Sunday, midweek (Men/Women/Congregational/House Church), devotionals, retreats, etc.
- We need fellowship, especially when we don't feel like it! (Romans 1:11-12, Hebrews 3:12-13)
- We respect God's wisdom and the authority of God's leadership in the church (Hebrews 13:17)
- Sunday is "the Lord's Day" (Revelation 1:10) and the day the church gathered (Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:1-2)
- We are part of a body – every part is needed, we can't say "I don't need you" (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)
- We submit to the church leaders' authority because we part of Christ's body (Ephesians 4:11-14)

4. Meeting Together Is To Have DISTINCT ELEMENTS

- Element 1: Come prepared to WORSHIP (Psalm 100:1-3; Psalm 102:21-22)
- Element 2: Come prepared to SING (Ephesians 5:18-20; Colossians 3:16) – we are commanded to sing!
- Element 3: Come prepared to FELLOWSHIP (Hebrews 10:24-25; Acts 2:42)
- Element 4: Come prepared for CONTRIBUTION (1 Corinthians 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7; Proverbs 3:9)
 - Understand the purpose of the Weekly, Poor, & Special Missions contributions
 - **Galatians 2:10** *All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I had been eager to do all along. (also see Matthew 25:40)*
- Element 5: Come prepared for COMMUNION (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23-32)
 - Remember Jesus' body and blood – his love for us
 - Examine our hearts – vertical and horizontal relationships – never take communion lightly
- Element 6: Come prepared to HEAR THE WORD OF GOD (2 Timothy 4:2; 1 Timothy 4:13; Isaiah 66:2b)
- Element 7: Come prepared to PRAY (Acts 4:23-24a; Acts 12:5)

5. Meeting Together In SPIRIT and In TRUTH (1 Timothy 3:15; Gal. 1:8-9; Acts 2:38-39; 2 Timothy 2:24-26)

John 4:23-24 *Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth."*

- SPIRIT and TRUTH

Matthew 15:6b-9 *Thus you nullify the word of God for the sake of your tradition. You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you: 'These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.'*

- Worship in tradition is "merely human rules" and is "in vain"

1 Peter 2:1 *But there were also false prophets among the people, just as there will be false teachers among you. They will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the sovereign Lord who bought them—bringing swift destruction on themselves.*

- False/inaccurate teaching is a BIG DEAL. False teachers exist: they teach what is FALSE!

1 Timothy 4:16 Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers. (also see 1 Timothy 3:15)

- Doctrine matters: do what God has authorized! We are “the pillar and foundation of the truth”!

Example of Doctrinal Truth: Baptism

Acts 2:38 [Memory Verse] Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

- Baptism is for “forgiveness of sins” and to “receive the gift of the Holy Spirit”
- Forgiveness = the point in time of salvation, relationship with God
- We must have the Holy Spirit to be in Christ: “If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ” (Romans 8:9)
- Baptism requires repentance: literally to change your mind (metanoia), surrender, make Jesus Lord
- If I’ve not done what God says to do, then I’m not a Christian

Galatians 1:8-9 But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach a gospel other than the one we preached to you, let them be under God’s curse! As we have already said, so now I say again: If anybody is preaching to you a gospel other than what you accepted, let them be under God’s curse!

- Must have the right gospel, teach the truth about salvation. What does the Bible teach?
 - a. Hear the Word (Romans 10:17)
 - b. Believe the Gospel (Faith – Hebrews 11:6)
 - c. Repent of Sins (Luke 13:1-5, 2 Corinthians 7:10-11, Acts 2:38)
 - d. Confess Jesus as Lord (Romans 10:9, 1 Timothy 6:12, Matthew 28:18-20)
 - e. Be baptized for forgiveness of sins and to receive gift of Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38-39)

Romans 6:3-4 Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

- False Teachings abound: These false teachings are NOT in the Bible!
 - Infant baptism is not conversion (Colossians 2:12); you must have “faith”
 - Praying Christ into your heart is not repentance and does not make you “born again” (John 3:3-5) or give you “a new life” (Romans 6:4)
 - Accepting Jesus as your personal savior is not the same as making Jesus Lord – beware of self-centered religion!

Galatians 3:26-27 So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

- Are you inside or outside of Christ? The Bible never says you can faith **into** Christ, believe **into** Christ, repent **into** Christ, confess **into** Christ, accept **into** Christ, or pray **into** Christ
- The Bible ONLY says you can be **BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST!**

1 Peter 3:21 “Baptism that now saves you”

1 Peter 3:15 The solution to false teaching = True Teaching!

- Make Jesus’ Lord – never compromise!
- Be Prepared – don’t be surprised by Satan’s schemes!
- Preach the Word – with gentleness and respect!

1 Corinthians 12:27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.