

The Purpose of this Church

Hebrews Chapter 10:19-31

I want you all to know the purpose of this church here. Why are we here? What are we going to do? What can you do? We all need a purpose. We all need a reason to be here. Why are we here at church?

Church is a gathering together of believers in the Lord Jesus Christ. If you have heard the Gospel and believed the Gospel, you are saved forever. You have everlasting life that cannot be lost. Hebrews Chapter 10 explains this at the beginning of the chapter.

""Hebrews 10:10-12

By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. 11 And every priest standeth daily ministering and offering oftentimes the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins: 12 But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God;""

""Hebrews 10:14-17

For by one offering he hath perfected for ever them that are sanctified. 15 Whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before, 16 This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them; 17 And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more.""

A Church Should Be Filled With Believers in Jesus Christ

Here, at this church, we are saved by Jesus Christ. We put all of our trust in Jesus, He saved us, He gave us everlasting life ONCE AND FOR ALL. He made the sacrifice. We believe that. We believe in Him alone to save us. We're saved.

That's who we are here. If you aren't 100% sure you're going to heaven, we'll show you how to be sure at the end of this service. Just raise your hand later, and you will be sure. And you will be a part of God's family and this church.

Once you are saved, God gives you the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. He has purchased you. You are His forever. And that's a great thing because you are now on the right side.

This church is now here for you. Why are we here? For God and for you. We are here to do His will, which includes you. Watch this in Hebrews Chapter 10.

""Hebrews 10:19-21

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, 20 By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; 21 And having an high priest over the house of God;""

Hey, we have BOLDNESS now. We can enter into the HOLIEST. We have direct access to the Lord God Almighty. How? Only by the blood of Jesus Christ.

Prayers From the Children of God

Understand that when you become a member of this church here, you have people here that have access to God Almighty. We will pray for you. We will love you. You are my family now. You are our family. And God listens to us because we do His work. We love Him. And He listens to us.

We take our prayers for you to Him. You have a great advantage being here because God is with us.

Look at verse 20. "By a new and living way." Just as our friend Tyra said, you have a FRESH START here. We all need that. We all need a new and living way.

Sin leads to death. Jesus leads to love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. As you continue in Jesus Christ with us, you will see all goodness, all righteousness, and all truth.

And this is what you want. You don't want sin, pain, sickness, death, and torment. God doesn't want that for you. This church doesn't want that for you. I don't want that for you.

So, what are we doing here? Let's continue in Hebrews Chapter 10.

""Hebrews 10:22

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.""

Hey, let us draw near to God Almighty. Have a TRUE HEART. You have full assurance of faith from the Lord. Your hearts are sprinkled from an evil conscience. Our bodies are washed with pure water. Hey, let's keep it that way.

This Church Keeps You Away From Sin

This church is here to keep you away from sin. That's our job. Stay away from the evil and danger out there and come join us here on Sundays and Thursdays. If you want to stay out of trouble on the other days, join us for soul winning or preaching the Gospel.

I go soul winning every day so that I can stay away from sin. It helps me to walk in the Spirit.

""Hebrews 10:23

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)""

We believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us hold fast that profession of faith. We will not waver here. Jesus Christ promised to not leave us or forsake us. He doesn't lie.

Now, you can leave Him. You can ignore what He's trying to do with you and for you. He's trying to help you. He brought you here. Don't ignore Jesus Christ. Be faithful to Him as He is faithful to you.

He gave you the life you're living right now. He keeps your heart beating. He wants you here. You're special to Jesus Christ.

Watch this in the next verse. This is why this church is here.

""Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.""

We are here to provoke or to cause you to get excited above loving others and doing good works for them and for God.

There's nothing better than doing the work of God. It's the most rewarding work that you'll ever do because God is the one paying you for that work. He's the best at everything. And He's the best at paying you for the work you do for Him. He will take care of you as you do His work.

Here's the Good Works You Can Do

What are good works you can do? The Bible says that the first works, the most important work you can do, is preaching the Gospel. We do that every day here. We will teach you how to do this. You can go personally with me, with Nathan, with my Dad, with my wife, with Milana, with my Mom, with my daughters. We will teach you. We've been doing this for years.

Verse 25 says, "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is." Church is when we assemble together as believers. We all have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We come together in church. Special things happen here in church.

That's a commandment right there from God to get to church. Why? Because church helps you. Church profits you in every way. Don't forget to come to church.

Once you get away from a good church, you're going to sin more and you're going to get in much more trouble. For example, let's say I just stopped coming to church. I wouldn't be out preaching the Gospel any more. I wouldn't be doing God's will for me.

He asks us to do what He says because it's best for us and for others.

In verse 25 there, the Bible says to exhort one another as we assemble together. This means we are to incite each other to good deeds by words. Encourage each other. Help each other. If someone has an issue with alcohol, let's help them get away from the alcohol. That's just one example.

Let's get them reading their Bible every day. Praying every day. Coming to church every time we're open. Let's get them out there preaching the Gospel. Let's get them involved with music here at the church. If you love to sing, let's get you up here singing a special for the church.

Let's get a children's and teen group going. Let's get some field trips going.

Let's teach the men how to lead their home. Let's teach husbands how to love their wives. Let's teach women how to love their husbands. Let's teach the children how to obey their parents and God.

We'll Teach You How To Be Successful In Life

Let's teach you how to be successful in life. How to find a good job. How to get a car. How to pay for things. How to get a good education. How to take care of your money. How to save money. How to get things in order in your life. We'll teach you that here. You have to learn how to be consistent.

A good way to learn is to consistently get to church where we can teach you and exhort you. Hey, I know how to live life. Eating healthy, exercising, and taking care of your body is important. You need to be doing that. You have to get things in order in your life. It's time for a fresh start.

It's time to memorize the Scriptures. It's time to show all the people who doubt you that they're wrong. You have the Lord God Almighty on your side. It's time to put away all the evil and the sin. It's time to do things right.

Who here would say that having faith in Jesus is a good thing? All of us. Who here would say getting baptized is a good thing? All of us. Who here would say coming to church is a good thing? We know right from wrong.

Doing drugs is not a good thing. Drinking alcohol is poison. Not a good thing. Having a relationship outside of marriage is not a good thing. It's called fornication. Cheating on your husband or wife is not a good thing. These are horrible sins.

This church is here to remind you of these things so you can get sin out of your life. So you can have a great life and not a life filled with tears, crying, depression, and other horrible things.

This church is here to offer you a free wedding service. Marriage is for life. There's no valid reason for divorce saving for the cause of fornication. Get fornication out of your life.

This church is here to offer free funeral services. We are not a funeral home, but we'll have a funeral service here for your family or friends for free. We simply want people to be saved. We want people to follow Jesus Christ.

We know right from wrong because we have God's words. He tells us right and wrong. We better start doing things the right way. We need to do better and get better.

Be Very Careful About Sinning Against God

Now watch this in the Scriptures. Next verse.

""Hebrews 10:26-27

For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, 27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.""

False preachers will say that this verse, verse 26, means you can lose your salvation. It doesn't. You can't lose everlasting life or God made a mistake when He called it everlasting life. There is no animal sacrifice you can offer for your sins any more as in the Old Testament.

We've all done things that we've known are wrong. We've all sinned wilfully after we've been saved and after we've known right from wrong.

But this Scripture is telling us that we need to have some fear of God Almighty.

He's telling us how important it is to do right. If you want to do wrong now, you should be afraid of God. He loves you and He doesn't want you doing wrong because it leads to death for you, your family, your friends. He doesn't want you dead. So be afraid when you do wrong. Hate when you do wrong.

Do you know how to get the sin out of your life? HATE THAT SIN. If you love alcohol, you need to hate it. Think of how it makes you feel afterwards. Think of the problems it's given you. Think of the heartache and the loss it's given you in your life. Think of the relationships it has destroyed.

It's no good. I'm here to tell you that. This church exists to tell you that. Hate the sin. It's evil.

God Is The Judge and You Don't Want Him Angry With You

God is THE JUDGE. He has fiery indignation or extreme anger when you continue in sin. You know right from wrong. Don't make God angry. Hey, the one person you don't want to make angry is God Almighty. He is ALL POWERFUL. Don't mess with God.

""Hebrews 10:28-29

He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?""

Don't despise God's law by ignoring His law. Don't disregard God's law. He says to not even look at alcohol. That's a good way to never drink it. Don't even look upon it.

Don't even look upon another man or woman with lust. That's how you prevent adultery. You have a wife. She's yours. God has no law against you loving your wife with a passion. You have a husband. Look at him. Don't look at another man with lust. There's no law against you loving your husband with a passion.

God says that he that despised the law of Moses died without mercy. I don't want that for you.

Verse 29 gets worse, though. Be afraid of not following God's law. How much sorer punishment when you trodden under foot the Son of God? When you know something is wrong and you do it anyway, you stomp all over our Lord Jesus Christ. You trample Him under your feet. He doesn't deserve that.

Listen to the Holy Spirit Within You

The Holy Spirit is within you and leading you. Someone that got saved here last week, told me last week, after church, in the afternoon, that they would have usually been drunken by now. But they had this voice inside them telling them to not do it. And they didn't. Praise God. But we have to keep that going. Listen to the Holy Spirit within. Don't ignore God.

""Hebrews 10:30-31

For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. 31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.""

Let me say this again. THE LORD SHALL JUDGE HIS PEOPLE. We are already HIS PEOPLE. We're saved by God's grace through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. We are His people. And when we decide to do wrong, He will judge us. He will punish here on this earth. He will chasten us.

He does this to get us back on the right track. Thank God.

If I'm doing wrong, I want God to punish me. I want to do right. Hey, it's a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God. We're safe in His hands forever, but He can squeeze a little. And it can hurt. Be careful.

It's good to be in the hands of God, but it can also be a very fearful thing. Just as the sun is good, gives us light, warms us, and helps us. The sun can also destroy us. Just as water is good,

quenches our thirst, cools us, and helps us. Water can also destroy us. Just as the wind is good, calms us, cools us, provides electricity, and helps us. Wind can also destroy us.

God is good, but He can also destroy us in this life. You can lose your life just as king Saul lost his life. He went up against God as God's chosen and anointed first king of Israel. And Saul lost. Just as Samson lost his life. You can cause others to lose their life just as that child of David lost its life because of the adultery king David committed.

When you go against God by sinning when you know it's wrong, YOU LOSE. Don't lose. Don't sin willfully against God.

What is the purpose of this church?

Preaching the Gospel is For Everyone

We are here to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to this community, to this city, to this state, to this country, and to this world. And that's not just for me, Nathan, and our families. It's not just our job to do this. It's your job too.

""Mark 16:15

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.""

Jesus wasn't talking to just me. He said unto them. He says this to you. Preach the Gospel. Hey, I want you to join me in preaching the Gospel. Please join me. Please join us. The Gospel is what saves you, your family, your friends, and strangers that will be forever your friend.

We are here FIRST to preach the Gospel. If we stop doing that, as a church, we won't exist. As long as I'm alive, we will be preaching the Gospel here at this church. And we will exist as a church of Jesus Christ.

I want to share one of my favorite Scriptures in all the Bible. My heart jumps with joy whenever I read this. I love this Scripture. As I read this, hey, you're missing out if you aren't sharing this with others. Listen to this closely.

""Luke 2:8-9

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.""

""Luke 2:10-11

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.""

Hey, fear not! For BEHOLD I bring you good tidings of GREAT JOY which shall be to ALL PEOPLE! Why? Hey, Jesus Christ is born this day in the city of David. A Saviour is born. Our Savior. Our Jesus Christ died in our place to pay for all our sins, was buried, and arose from the dead victorious so ALL OF US here can go to heaven when we die.

That's the good news that we must go out and share. I want you to do that with me. How do you do that? Just ask me. I will take you out myself. We'll go preach the Gospel and you can see and learn how it's done. It's easy.

What is the purpose of this church? Preach the Gospel. Next step is to get people baptized.

""**Matthew 28:19**

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:""

Get Baptized in Water After You're Saved

If you were baptized before you were saved, you should get baptized again. If you thought you had to be good to get to heaven when you got baptized, you weren't saved and that baptism doesn't count. The order of things within the Bible is get saved first and then get baptized.

If you were baptized as a baby, you didn't yet believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Get baptized again.

""**Acts 8:35-36**

Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same scripture, and preached unto him Jesus. 36 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?""

""**Acts 8:37-38**

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. 38 And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.""

Philip preached the Gospel to this Ethiopian eunuch. That Ethiopian man believed the Gospel. He was saved. And then he got baptized because he was already saved. He had already received the indwelling of the Holy Ghost. He was already baptized in Christ because he believed.

What is baptism in water? It's the first step you should take after being saved. It's you saying that you believe in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It's a picture of you standing there dead in your sins. You go under the water as Jesus was buried. You come out of the water as Jesus arose from the dead.

It's the first step of obedience towards the Lord Jesus Christ. And God rewards you for your obedience to His commands. Get baptized and store up rewards in heaven. These are eternal

rewards that God wants you to have, I want you to have, this entire church wants you to have. We're on your side here. We're here for you. Get baptized.

I'm scheduling a big baptism day in the December/January time frame. We'll hopefully be ready to baptize by then. Schedule your baptism with me now. We'll get everything ready for you.

So, the purpose of this church is to preach the Gospel, get people saved, baptize them, and then what? What's next?

Our Job is to Teach You the Bible

""Matthew 28:19-20

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.""

Jesus commands us, as His church, to go, to teach, to baptize. He says in verse 20, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

Where are all these things he wants us to do? They are in the Bible. We use only the King James Version of the Bible here. It's not corrupted. It's not a perversion of God's words. It's perfect and without error. Preserved for us to read, learn, and know the truth.

We take the Bible, as we've been doing today in church, and we teach these things. We preach the Gospel, get people saved, get people baptized, and teach this Bible.

We encourage you to read the Bible. We have videos on You Tube for reading the Bible. If you follow those videos, you can read the Bible through 3 times per year. 4 videos per day. Each video is about 10 to 15 minutes long on average. I suggest you watch a video at breakfast, at lunch, at dinner, and right before bed. 4 times per day. Only 10 to 15 minutes each time.

Imagine reading through the Bible 3 times per year. That's awesome. And then you can do even more. Personally, my best time for reading through the entire Bible is 2 weeks. That same month, last January, I read the Bible through twice in one month and read the New Testament through twice more. I've read the New Testament through in one day.

Reading the Bible Gets Easier and Easier

So, reading the Bible 3 times per year is easy. But you must stay consistent. You have to keep it going. That's how you change your life. Consistency is the key. God's word is the key.

""2 Corinthians 3:3

Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not

with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.'"

This is why we have a memory verse of the week. Please, if you aren't yet participating, please start today. Find a partner to recite your memory verse to each week. Keep records. You'll begin to store up all these Scriptures in the fleshy tables of your heart.

What's the purpose of this church? Preach the Gospel, get people saved, get them baptized, get them reading the Bible, get them memorizing Scripture, teaching them the Bible. Training them to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Exhorting one another.

Hey, the greatest work you'll ever do is getting out there, with us, and seeing what it's like to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.

Hey, when you go out to preach the Gospel with us, you will be doing the exact same work that Jesus did when He was on this earth. You will see through His eyes as you do His work.

Learn How to Love Others

This work will teach you how to love other people. These people out here they aren't bad people. Some are simply lost. I was lost. I was blind. BUT NOW I SEE. Why? Because someone showed me the Gospel. Someone passed it on. Now it's our job to pass it on.

You'll meet people that are blind. You'll meet people that are deaf. You'll meet people that have no food to eat and no home to live in. You'll see that people aren't so bad.

You'll see why Jesus Christ wants you out there preaching the Gospel. Your faith will increase. The love within you will increase. You will learn how to be more humble. You will see pain, heartache, and more. The amount you care for others will increase. You will learn what it's like to be in the shoes of Jesus. And that's why He commands us to do this work.

When you join us here and become a part of this church, you'll improve in every way. That's the purpose of this church.

And I'm going to personally do everything I can to help you.

We're going to have special events all throughout the year. We're going to feed this community several times per year. We have started a clothes closet right there in the front of the church for people who come to church to learn God's words. Take what you need. Bring what you don't need and give to others.

We're Going to Have Special Days For This Community

We're going to have a big Thanksgiving meal for this community right here at church. We're going to make Christmas special for this community. We're going to get people here for the food just as people followed Jesus to be fed. And we're going to do our best to have them leave with eternal life.

""John 6:32-35

Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. 33 For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world. 34 Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. 35 And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst.""

Hey, we're going to be a big family here. We're going to be the kindest people in the area. We're going to be the most caring people in the area. We're going to love you with all that we have within us.

We're all going to be close here. We're going to be forgiving to each other and to others. We're going to have grace and mercy. This is the house of the Lord. We're going to teach you how to pray. We are a house of prayer.

When you join us here, you're going to have people who pray for you. We go to God asking for help for you, and we know and believe God will answer those prayers. That's a huge advantage you didn't have before you came here.

God listens to the people who are doing His work. He's answered my prayers especially since I've been going out soul winning. Come do His work with us, get in His will, and He answers.

A Summary of the Purpose of This Church

I want to summarize the purpose of this church. Why are we here? Why are you here? What are we going to do?

1. Soul winning: Preach the Gospel. Get people saved.
2. Baptism: Baptize them in water as the first step of obeying Jesus.
3. Church: Get them to church so we can teach them the Bible.
 - a. Preach God's commandments so we don't sin. Preach against sin so you don't die.
 - b. Worship God. Praise God. All glory to God. We decrease. He increases.
 - c. We pray for you. We ask God to help you. We ask for your prayers.
 - d. Provoke one another to good works.
 - e. A church family who loves you and is there for you in tough times.
 - f. Help, love, care, edification, exhortation.

4. Bible: Read and study the Bible.
5. Prayer: We pray for you. God listens. You pray for us. God listens. We pray for others.
6. Fun and Joy: We're here to have fun. We're here to have good times and not bad times.

You get a fresh start here. A new way to live your life. A way to honor God. A way to love God. Show God you love Him by joining us here. Help us show God we want this community changed. God waits for us to put forth that effort. When He sees our efforts, He helps. Please help us.

Help Us Change West Louisville

If you want West Louisville changed, you have to help us. We need you. Spread the word. Invite people to this church. Let's get people here. Let's get them saved. Let's get them following the Lord.

We will be known in Louisville as THE CHURCH to send your family, friends, and loved ones so they can be saved and so they can change their life. We want good for everyone in this community. Let's do this. We need your help.

Now that you know the purpose of this church, please join us. Let's get this done as fast as we can and as soon as we can. We need you here.

Let's pray.