

BAD CONNECTIONS

Matthew 26:36-50

"Good Connection" vs. "Bad Connection"



John 12:1-6

1. Judas never addressed his Greed problem

2. Failed to understand who he was sinning against

Do your actions demonstrate that you disregard the Sovereignty of Jesus Christ?

Statistics

Less than 20% of Americans regularly attend church.

• Only 23-25% of Americans attend at least 3 out of every 8 Sundays.

- 59% of Millennials that grew up in church have dropped out at some point.
- More than 22% of Americans don't claim a religious affiliation

2 Reasons People Don't Attend Church

1. Hypocrisy

Driven by selfish motives

Romans 1:18-25

"¹⁸ The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, ¹⁹ since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.²⁰ For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

Romans 1:18-25 continued

²¹ For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.²² Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools ²³ and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. ²⁴ Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another.

Romans 1:18-25 continued

²⁵ They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen."

2 Reasons People Don't Attend Church

1. Hypocrisy

2. Not Finding Community

• Community is about spending time with one another, loving one another, and doing life with one another.

<u>Acts 2:42-47</u>

"⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

2 Groups Affected by Lack of Community

1. Guest

People didn't like Jesus because He was the greatest speaker, they found Him irresistible because He accepted them.

2. Regular Attenders

Just because people attend church, doesn't mean their faith is strong enough to walk alone.

Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

"⁹ Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: ¹⁰ If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up. ¹¹ Also, if two lie down together, they will keep warm. But how can one keep warm alone? ¹² Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

