

"SOME 'NOTS' ABOUT THE CHURCH"

By Hoyt W. Allen, Jr.

The Church is not...:

- 1) Attempting to separate a person from family members, but wants everyone to know that Jesus must be #1 in each church member's life (Matthew 10:34-39).
- 2) Endeavoring to tell a person how to set priorities, but does stress that a church member's priorities should be consistent with the Bible (Matthew 16:24).
- 3) Teaching that one is beautiful when worldliness is seen in a life, but promotes "Holy living" (Hebrews 12:14).
- 4) Comprised of sinless saints who consider themselves as better than lost souls, but realizes that by God's grace their sins have been covered by the blood of Christ (I Corinthians 6:19,20).
- 5) Being judgmental upon all people as being lost or saved, but contends that Jesus is the only Savior (John 14:6).
- 6) Expecting each member to have the same gifts to share in the ministry, but does expect church members to use their gifts, talents and abilities to assist in the local ministry (Matthew 25:14-30).
- 7) Always harping on sinners to be baptized, but does strive to teach that baptism is a command which Jesus said was required to be saved, along with: faith, repentance, confession and faithful Christian living (Mark 16:16).
- 8) Insistent that its members attend every service (Sunday morning/evening, mid-week, revivals, concerts, seminars), but does teach it is sin to purposely miss services (Hebrews 10:25).
- 9) Expounding that as sinners become saints, those with certain sins in their background, will have to serve as "second class" church members (Romans 6:1-4).
- 10) Stuck in a rut and is refusing to update its ways, but is open to make any necessary changes as long as it is permissible in Scripture (II Timothy 3:16-17).

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