

Church Activities

“but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”

1 Tim 3:15





This Way

to the FUN

NOW WHAT?



7 Fun Activities to Spice up Your Church



B. C. Goodpasture, Gospel Advocate, 1948, pg. 484 –

“It is not the mission of the church to furnish amusement for the world, or even for its own members. For the church to turn aside from its divine work to furnish amusement and recreation is to pervert its mission. If the church will discharge its duty in preaching the gospel, in edifying its members, and in helping the worthy poor, it will not have the desire or the time to amuse and entertain.”

N.B. Hardeman, "Hardeman's Tabernacle Sermons,"
Vol. V, p. 50, 1942 –

"Again I say unto you, with caution and thought, that it is not the work of the church to furnish entertainment for its members. And yet many churches have drifted into such an effort. They enlarge their basements, put in all kinds of gymnastic apparatus, and make every sort of an appeal to the young people of the congregation. I have never read anything in the Bible that indicated to me that such was a part of the work of the church. I am wholly ignorant of any Scripture that even points in that direction."

For the church to Act Without Authority is Sin

- Matt. 28:18- “And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’”
- Col. 3:17- “And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

For the church to Act Without Authority is Sin

1 Cor. 4:6- “Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us not to think beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.”

For the church to Act Without Authority is Sin

2 Jn. 9- “Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.”

In this Lesson I Want to:

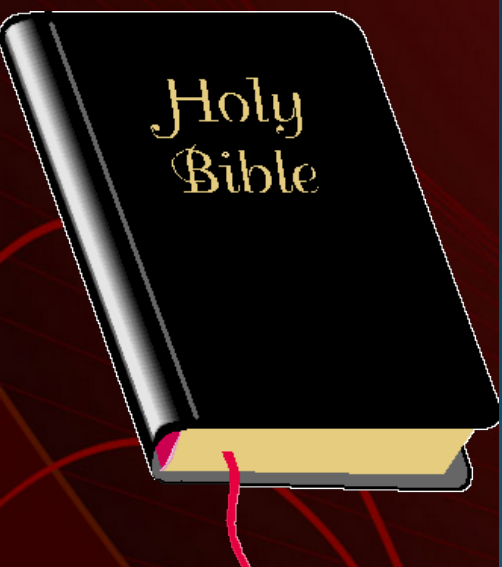
- **MAKE FOUR OBSERVATIONS**
- **ASK THREE QUESTIONS**
- **MAKE TWO IRREFUTABLE STATEMENTS**

The Purpose of this Lesson:

- To bring us all to the “Unity of the Faith”
 - John 17:21
 - Eph. 4:11-13
 - 1 Cor. 1:10

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Col. 3:17

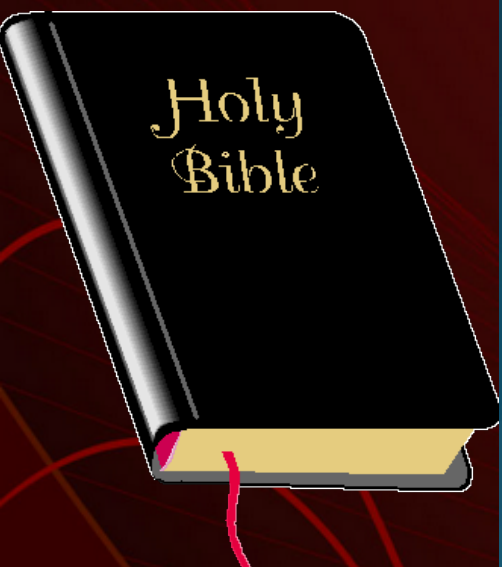


First Observation

Recreation, gymnasiums, kitchens, and various forms of entertainment are not a part of “the things of God.”

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

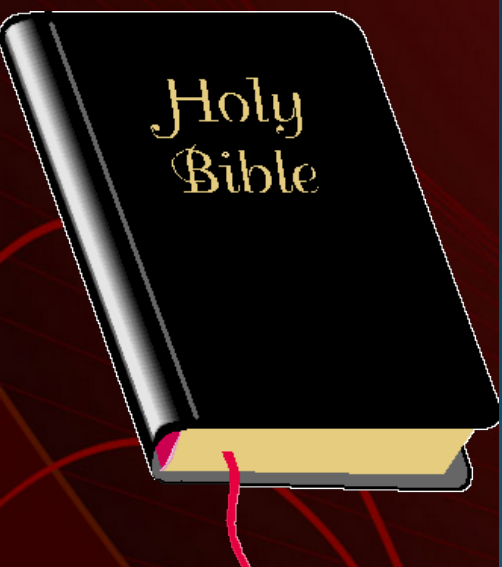
Col. 3:17



Matt. 16:23- “But He turned and said to Peter, ‘Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men.’”

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Col. 3:17



Isaiah 55:8-9 “For My thoughts **are not** your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,” says the Lord. 9 “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.”

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’”
Matt. 28:18



Second Observation

Recreation, gymnasiums, kitchens, and various forms of entertainment and social activities are not part of “godliness.”

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’”
Matt. 28:18



1 Tim. 4:8- “For bodily exercise profits a little, but **godliness** is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.”

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.’”
Matt. 28:18



Bodily exercise:

- Is not profitable for all things,
- Does not have the promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come.

1 Tim. 4:8

“...that you
may learn in
us not to
think beyond
what is
written...”

1 Cor. 4:6

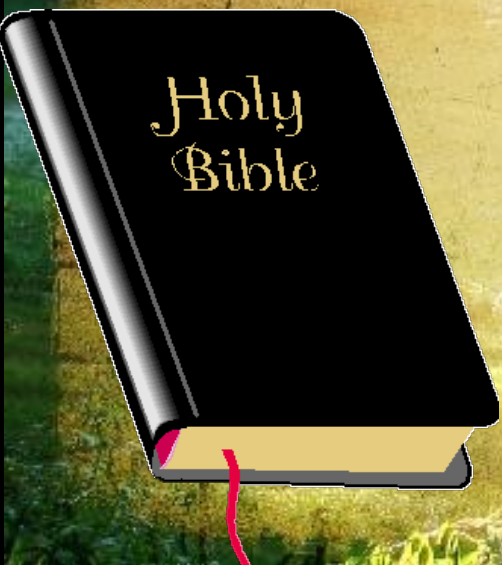


Third Observation

Recreation, gymnasiums,
kitchens, and various forms
of entertainment and social
activities are not part of
“the kingdom of God.”

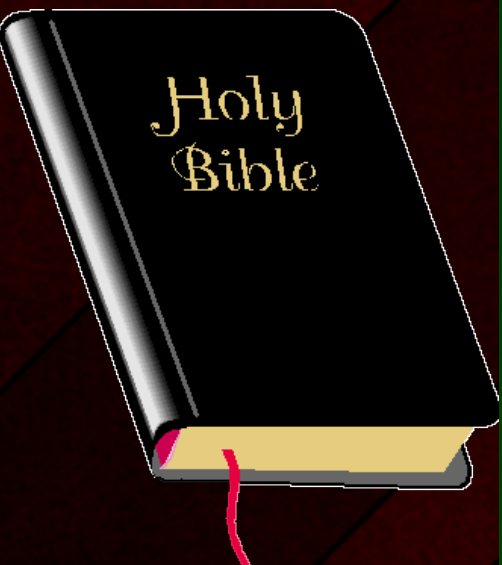
“...that you
may learn in
us not to
think beyond
what is
written...”

1 Cor. 4:6



Rom. 14:17- "for the
kingdom of God **is not**
eating and drinking, but
righteousness and peace
and joy in the Holy
Spirit."

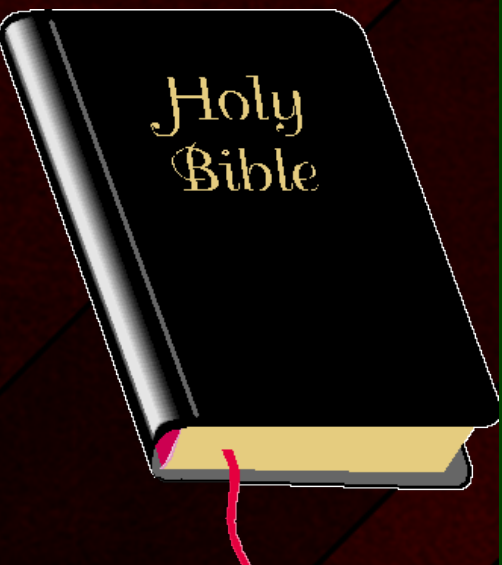
"Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God."
2 John 9(a)



Fourth Observation

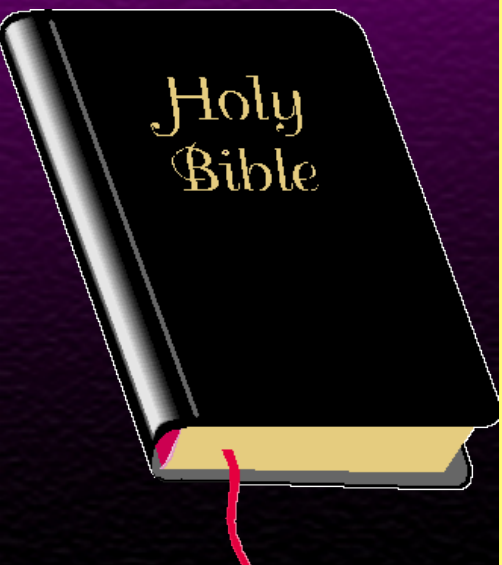
Recreation, gymnasiums, kitchens, and various forms of entertainment and social activities are not part of "the **work of Christ.**"

“Whoever
transgresses
and does not
abide in the
doctrine of
Christ does not
have God.”
2 John 9(a)



Phil. 2:30- “Receive him
therefore in the Lord with all
gladness, and hold such men in
esteem; (30) because **for the
work of Christ** he came close to
death, not regarding his life, to
supply what was lacking in your
service toward me.”

“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”
1 Tim. 4:2

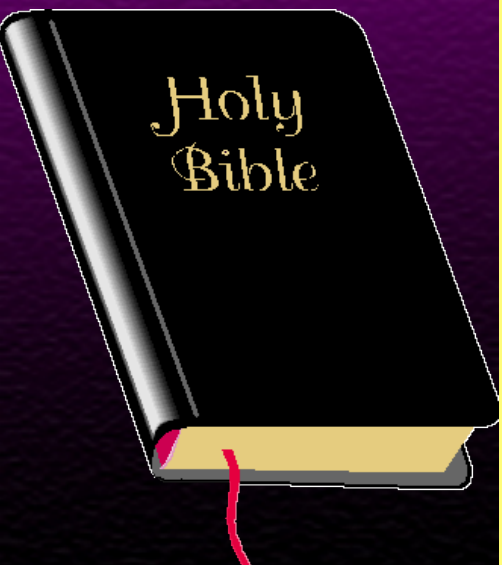


First Question

Where in the Bible do we find authority for making recreation, amusements, and entertainment a part of the work of the church?

“Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.”

2 Tim. 4:2



Phil. 4:15- “Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. (16) For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities.”

“but we preach
Christ
crucified, to
the Jews a
stumbling
block and to
the Greeks
foolishness,”

1 Cor. 1:23

Second Question

If a church can make social activities a part of its **work**, why can't a church make social activities a part of its **worship**?



**“but we preach
Christ
crucified, to
the Jews a
stumbling
block and to
the Greeks
foolishness,”**

1 Cor. 1:23

Sometimes the claim is made that “we’re just using these social activities to get people to come in so that we may teach them.”

1 Cor. 1: 21- “For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.”



“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Col. 3:17

Third Question

If social activities are a work of the church, then isn't it true that the church **MUST** support social activities?



“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Col. 3:17

The Church Must:

- Support evangelism
- Must edify
- Must do benevolent work



1st IRREFUTABLE STATEMENT

Jesus Christ has all authority.

And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."

2nd IRREFUTABLE STATEMENT

Jesus Christ **has not authorized churches to provide social activities, recreation, amusements, and entertainment.**

**be still
and know
that I am
God**



Psalms 46:10

While it is true that many churches need to repent, it is also true that many individuals need to repent for the same reason – disobedience and conduct that is contrary to God's law. Luke 13:3

God's Conditions For Salvation:

- ❖ Believe – John 8:24
- ❖ Repent – Acts 2:38
- ❖ Confess Christ – Rom. 10:9-10
- ❖ Baptism – Mark 16:16
- ❖ Remain Faithful – Rev. 2:10

If the Lord, on the day of Judgment,
asked you to give a Biblical
argument for church involvement in
recreation, gymnasiums, kitchens,
and various forms of entertainment,
could you do it...**to save your
soul?**

