

BACK TO BASICS

YOUR LIFE IN THE CHURCH

What is the purpose of the church?

How many hours a week do you spend at church (Zion or a different church)?

Would you rather spend more or less time at church?

What are some of the reasons why you spend time at church?

Why did the Israelites gather together in Nehemiah 8?

What does Paul encourage the church to do in 2 Corinthians 9?

In John 6, why does Peter not want to leave Jesus when all but the 12 Apostles had abandoned him?

The image of a _____ is repeatedly used for the church in Scripture.

What are some ways you can help the ministry of the Gospel through service in the church?

I know my sin is forgiven, I get it! But I fall short no matter how hard I try to keep my full armor of God on. This happens in one part of my life, is this the devil after me, because I feel like he pumps into my body, then I feel like crap and spend the rest of my day in repentance and not understanding why, cause that wasn't me.

I'd be careful to assign credit to the devil for something that leads you to repentance and recognize your need for Christ. Human beings, even ones who are generally under the controlling influence of the Holy Spirit, are capable of great evil. The sins we commit make us not only "get" our need for forgiveness, but lead us to "feel" that very real need. That's not to excuse our sins, but to illustrate the importance of remaining connected to Christ. It also points to the need for Christ to return and get rid of sin and the effects of sin for good.

The reason why Christians still sin is because we live in this present evil age. The devil, the world and our own sinful flesh are still given some room in which to operate. They have all been defeated by Christ, but they have not been annihilated. They don't call it the Church Caribbean Vacation; there's a reason why it's called the Church Militant. Remain connected to the vine, Jesus Christ, and he will sustain you through all of it. He has defeated sin and death and knows what it means to be tempted by the devil. Remain in him; his words and the sacraments, and he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear.