



*Previous lesson—**Being a Member of a Church of Christ**...Last Sunday...*  
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***SHOULD*** be a member a local church ... ***Why?***

Mutual encouragement, edification, thru sharing, or fellowship, of one another's faith, knowledge, example

**“NOT FORSAKING OUR OWN ASSEMBLING TOGETHER,**  
as is the habit of some,  
**BUT ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER”** Heb 10:25

# Circumstances that would NOT *prohibit* my membership

## Sin in the church

1Co 5:1 “It is actually reported that there is immorality among you”

## Preacher — not understand ... not agree with

Eph 4:11 “gave some A., P., E., P., T. ... 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature **which belongs to the fullness of Christ.**”

## Unfriendly members

1Co 11:22 “... do you despise the church of God and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.”

*Is there ANYTHING that  
would hinder being a  
member of some  
Churches of Christ ...?*

# What WOULD hinder my membership ...

- Being a “member” is based on the idea of *fellowship*...

Php 1:27 “striving together for the faith of the gospel”

- Fellowship with GOD contingent on NOT being in fellowship with SIN ...

2Co 6:14 “what partnership [“fellowship” NKJV] have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness? ... 17 ‘Therefore, come out from their midst and be separate,’ says the Lord. ‘And do not touch what is unclean; and I will welcome you.’”

# What WOULD hinder my membership ...

- Being a “member” is based on the idea of *fellowship*...
- Fellowship with GOD contingent on NOT being in fellowship with SIN ...

Therefore, *when being a member of a church would necessitate my fellowship (participation in / support) of sin, which in turn would sever my fellowship with Christ, is that a church I can be a member of ... ???*

# ***Membership ... Can I?***

If membership *nessitates* participation in ...

- **Vain WORSHIP ...?**

**Mt 15:9** “... in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men.” (e.g., mechanical instrumental music; “many other things” Mk 7:4)

- **Unauthorized WORK ...?**

**1Tim 5:16** “If any woman who is a believer has dependent widows, she must assist them and the church must not be burdened, so that it may assist those who are widows indeed ”      How money spent? Look at the budget

- **Unauthorized ORGANIZATION ...?**

**Ac 20:17** “Ephesus...elders of THE church... 28 Be on guard...and for all THE flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church...”



## ***Membership ... Can I?***

If membership *nessitates* participation in ...

- **False *TEACHER* ...?**

**2Pt 2:1** “But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will **secretly** introduce **destructive heresies...their sensuality... greed...exploit** you [“make merchandies of”<sup>KJV</sup>]”

Note: Does NOT mean everyone who teaches something different than what I believe is a “false teacher”)

- **False *DOCTRINE (teaching)* that jeopardizes the soul ...?**

**2Pt 2:1** “destructive heresies” **2Jn 7** “deceivers ..., those who do not acknowledge Jesus Christ as coming in the flesh ... 9 goes too far & does not abide in the teaching of Christ, does not have God ... 10 do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; 11 for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds.”

e.g., nature of Christ (2Jn 7)



- Are you a member of a church that is a “pillar and ground of the truth”(1Tim 3:15) as you *should* be?
- If not, are you seeking out a church to have fellowship with ... Ac 9:26
- Trips...Vacations—what kind of church do you you want to support with your presence?

*In the church you attend, are people who need to be saved told what the apostles of Jesus Christ told people?*

Ac 2:36 “let all ... know for certain that God has made Him [Jesus] both Lord and Christ ...” 37 “when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter & the rest of the apostles... ‘what shall we do’”? 38 “Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins”

