Why Members Should Attend Gospel Meetings
Psalms 1:1,2; 122:1

Introduction:
B. Gospel meeting often embarrassment to elders, preachers and others.
   1. Try explaining why more visitors than members.
   2. Try explaining to visiting preacher why so few.
C. Three good reasons for members’ attending gospel meetings.

Discussion:
I. To Support a Great Message.
   A. The message of this meeting is worthy of our support (1 Cor. 1:18-25; Rom. 1:15,16; Gal 1:8-10).
      1. Able to produce faith (Rom. 10:17; cf. Heb. 11:6).
      2. Able to save souls (Jas. 1:21).
      3. Able to build us up (Acts 20:32).
   B. The messenger of the meeting worthy of our support.
      2. Such men will preach with or without our support — but they deserve it.
         a. Paul (Cf. 2 Tim. 4:9-16)
         b. One who teaches doctrine of Christ (Converse of 2 John 9-11)
         c. Elder (or anyone) who speaks the word. (1 Thess 5:12-13; Heb. 13:7)
      d. Need to support them for own good. (Cf. Phil. 4:16,17).

II. To Receive a Great Message.
   A. In order to increase and refresh our knowledge (Col. 1:10; 1 Pet. 2:2; 2 Tim. 2:14; 2 Pet. 1:12; 3:1).
   B. In order to confirm and increase our faith. (Acts 14:22; 1 Thess. 3:1-3).
   C. In order to help us identify and avoid false teachers. (2 Pet. 2:1-3; 2 Tim. 4:1-4).
   D. In order to prepare us to teach our neighbors. (Cf. Matt. 28:19-20).

III. To Send a Great Message.
   A. The message my attendance sends.
      2. About my attitude toward gospel meetings.
      4. About my attitude toward the gospel itself.
   B. The objects of my message.
      1. Community.
      2. Friends.
      3. Family.
      4. Brethren.
      5. Preacher.

Conclusion:
A. If you are not here next week, what will be your true message?
   1. I would like to be there, but cannot because of circumstances beyond my control?
   2. I could be there, but am not because of circumstances within my control?
B. Remember, I may not know your circumstances — You and God know!