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| Slide # |  |
| 1 | **DO I Really Love The Church?**Ephesians 5:23-27 |
| 2 | **Christ & the ChurchEphesians 5:22-33**We are to learn from Jesus Christ’s relationship to His church… ***“I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.”*** (Ephesians 5:32)**Did Jesus love the church? How do we know?** (vs. 25)**We are to learn to “love” from Jesus!** (John 15:12-14)**Saying** we **love the Lord** and His church is **easy**, **demonstrating** it is the **challenging** part! (1 John 3:18; Matthew 7:21-23; Romans 5:8) |
| 3 | **Do I love the Church?**Do I ***“love the brotherhood”*?**(1 Peter 2:17)**More than each individual brother & sister** (1 Peter 1:22) … l**ove the building we are jointly a part of**…(1 Peter 2:5) the church!The **fellowship & joint participation** we share. The “ties that bind our hearts in Christian love.”How can one demonstrate our love for the church? |
| 4  | **DO I Respect the authority of its’ head?****Jesus Christ is THE Head of The Body**! (Colossians 1:18) and **(alone) has ALL authority**! (Matthew 28:18-20)**Revealed through His words from the Father**… (John 8:26-28; 12:48; 14:23-24)…Which **includes the words & examples of the apostles**. (John 16:12-13; Luke 10:16; Philippians 4:9)**We must have authority**! (Matthew 7:21-23) **Diligence in the scriptures required**. (2 Timothy 3:16-17)**Unless the Lord builds the house, we labor in vain**. (Psalms 127:1-2) |
| 5 | **DO I Give it my reverence & Thanks***“Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken,* ***let us show gratitude****, by which we may* ***offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe****.”* (Hebrews 12:28)\* Reverence for God includes reverence for **Himself** (Psalms 22:33), **His word** (Malachi 2:5), for **His worship** (Psalms 2:11-12) but His eternal kingdom and church. (Ephesians 3:10) |
| 6 | **Do I Support/Participate in its mission & work?****Spiritual and not carnal**. (Romans 14:17; 1 Timothy 5:16)**Seek lost souls**. (Matthew 1:21; 1 Timothy 1:15)**So they can be added to the church**. (Acts 2:41, 47; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15)**Our job to sow, plant and water with the seed.** (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)  |
| 7 | **Do I Support/Participate in its mission & work?****Growth only comes when each one does his/her part**. (Ephesians 4:11-16)**Must spread the gospel! Why was the gospel given**? (Mark 16:15-16; 1 Timothy 2:15)Includes my **commitment to continual worship**. What do I “get out of it” or what do I “give/contribute to it”?**A house neglected will crumble!** |
| 8 | **Do I put it first in my life?****Does it have “first place” along with its’ head?** (Colossians 1:18)***“It”* is to be *“sought first”*!**(Matthew 6:33 ) What does that mean? What are we willing to give? (2 Corinthians 8:5; Matthew 13:44-46)**What comes after?** Self (personal well-being), work, family, pleasure/recreation… everything! (Matthew 16:24; Luke 18:29) **Do we trust Him?** (2 Timothy 1:12; Luke 19:28-30) |
| 9 | **Do I Promote/strive for unity?****A house divided will not stand. (Mark 3:24)****If we are walking according to the flesh, will we turn against each other** (“bite and devour”; Galatians 5:15) and be “***consumed***” or destroyed? (cf., 1 Samuel 17:28; 1 Corinthians 5 & 6)**On what basis? God’s will not mine!** (Acts 15)**Fueled by selfless love**. (Philippians 2:3-5) |
| 10 | **Do I Promote/strive for purity?****Purity in…** (Ephesians 5:27; Revelation 19:7-8)* **Doctrine/teaching** (Titus 2:7; Galatians 1:6-9; 1 Timothy 4:6)
* **Morals** (1 Thessalonians 4:3-7)
* **Worship** (John 4:24)
* **Organization** (Philippians 1:1; Acts 20:28-30; 1 Peter 5:2; Acts 14:23)
* **Life** (1 Timothy 4:12)
* **Motives** (Philippians 1:17)
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| 11 | **Will I be loyal to His Church?****What is loyalty? (Proverbs 20:6; Hosea 6:6)*** **Faithfulness** - (Psalms 12:1; Matt. 25:21, 23; Rev. 2:10)
* **Devotion** - (1 Corinthians 7:35) & **Commitment** - (Psalms 22:8; Matthew 19:21)
* **Not looking back but forward** (Luke 9:62)… especially when it gets hard! (Heb. 10:32ff)
* **Not allowing our love to grow cold**. (Revelation 2:4-5; Matthew 24:12; Jeremiah 2:2)
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| 12 | **Will I be Added to His Church?****Do you desire to be saved from your sins and be part of the kingdom of the redeemed?**Will you render your obedience to the gospel through your **faith** that Jesus Christ is the Messiah, the Son of God, your **confession**, **repentance** and be born again by being **baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ? |