

# THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

November 5

2023

## What Can I Do For This Local Church?

The all inspired Scriptures emphasize the need for every member of the local church to work together (1 Corinthians 12:12-26), along with the need for every member of the church to supply their part to the church (Ephesians 4:16). However, too many today express an attitude of “what can this local church do for me” rather than an attitude of, “what can I do for this local church.” So, with that thought in mind, let’s take a look at a few things which every member of this local church is capable of, and needs to be providing to this local church.

### **You Can Provide This Local Church With Your Time.**

Every member of the church needs to recognize that being apart of a local church is going to require the use of your time. You see, there are many task that are in need of being done in every local church, and the only way that those task can effectively get done is by having members who are willing to sacrifice their time to complete those task. Sadly, there are too many today who would prefer to use all their time doing things that could be of personal benefit to them, instead of doing things that could benefit the work of this local church, or the cause of Christ. However, imagine if the Lord concerning the time that you put into the work of this local church said to you, “why have you been standing here idle all day?” (Ref. Matthew 20:6). Think about that, and be wise by redeeming the time (Ephesians 5:15-16; Colossians 4:5) you have by taking advantage of every opportunity you have to abound in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord (1Corinthians 15:58).

### **You Can Provide This Local Church With Your Commitment.**

Brethren, “commitment” is “the quality of being dedicated to a cause.” Knowing that, all members of this local church of Christ must be committed to the Lord, and to His work that needs to be done (Luke 9:57-62). Likewise, all members of this local church need to be fully committed to this local work, and must not forsake the assembling of ourselves together (Hebrews 10:24-25). You see, there are too many today who are inconsistent in their attendance, and this is not only an indicator that shows a lack of commitment to the work of this local church, and to the brethren here, but it also points toward a lack of commitment to the Lord. Therefore, may every member of this local church always strive to be at every service, and may each and every one of us be totally committed to the Lord, and to the work of this local church!

### **You Can Provide This Local Church With Your Participation.**

May each member of this local church recognize that “participation” means “to take part in something.” You see, all members of this local church are needed, and are useful (1 Corinthians 12:12-16). Therefore, we all need to be supplying our part to this local church (Ephesians 4:16). Knowing that, my beloved brethren, let us all actively take part in the work of this local church, remembering that there is work that we all can do, and never forgetting that even if one just has one talent they are still expected to make good use of it (Ref. Matthew 25:14-30).

### **You Can Provide This Local Church With Your Cooperation.**

“Cooperation” is defined as “the process of working together to the same end.” Sadly, there are some brethren today who are unwilling to work together, and instead of giving their complete cooperation to the work of this local church, they prefer to complain about or detest everything concerning the work of this local church. However, shame on those who sow discord among brethren (Proverbs 6:16-19), and shame on those who constantly complain (1 Corinthians 10:10). So, instead of being one who consistently complains or causes trouble among the brethren, let’s all be one who walks worthy of the calling with which we were called, and let us endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:1-3), never forgetting, the Lord desires for His people to be unified (John 17:20-

21). Remember that brethren, and be one who gives your complete cooperation to the work of this local church as long as the things done here are in accordance to the will of God, always keeping these inspired words in mind, “Behold how good and how pleasant it is For brethren to dwell together in unity” (Psalm 133:1)!

**You Can Provide This Local Church With Your Purity.**

As Christians, we must all strive to keep ourselves pure (1 Timothy 5:22), free from the contamination of sin, and we must strive to keep this local church without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but rather we must keep it holy and without blemish (Ephesians 5:25-27). Knowing that, may each and every member of this local church deny ungodliness and worldly lust, and may each of us always seek to live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age (Titus 2:12). Remember that brethren, and always realize the importance of purity, never forgetting, “a little leaven leavens the whole lump” (1 Corinthians 5:6; Galatians 5:9).

Once more, brethren, we all can and need to provide our time, commitment, participation, cooperation, and purity to this local church. So, knowing this, I now ask, what kind of church would this local church be if everyone provided the same amount of time to it as you do? What kind of church would this church be if everyone possessed the same type of commitment to it as you do? What kind of church would this church be if everyone was as involved and active as you are? What kind of church would this church be if everyone provided the same kind of cooperation to the work as you do? What kind of church would this church be if everyone sought to be as pure as you do? Think about that, and be honest!

Better yet, I ask, what kind of church would this church be if we all sacrificed and provided our time to this local work, being totally committed to this local work, being actively involved in this local work, providing our complete cooperation to the work here, and by always seeking to be pure, free from the contamination of sin? I venture to say we all know the answer to that question. Therefore, let each and every one of us seek to do just that, and may this local church be a glorious church (Ref. Ephesians 5:23-27)!

✍️ Brad Phillips

# God’s Plan of Salvation

**Hear the word of God. (Romans 10:17)**

**Believe in Jesus Christ. (John 8:24)**

**Repent of your sins. (Acts 17:30)**

**Confess Jesus Christ. (Matthew 10:32)**

**Be baptized for the remission of sins. (Acts 2:38)**

**Remain faithful unto death. (Revelation 2:10)**

*“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)*

**Belleville church of Christ**  
5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258  
[www.bellevillechurch.net](http://www.bellevillechurch.net)

**Schedule of Services**

Sunday Bible Study .....	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship .....	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship .....	4:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study .....	7:00 p.m.

**Evangelist**

Brad Phillips .....	(765) 720-2816
---------------------	----------------