First Century Christianity Today

Book, chapter, and verse preaching

Everything the Scriptures teach

Nothing the Scriptures do not teach

Back to the Bible!

What To Expect When You Visit With Us



www.padfield.com
© 2021 David Padfield

David Padfield

What To Expect When You Visit With Us

any people are hesitant to attend worship services at an unfamiliar church. To help alleviate any apprehensions you may have regarding this congregation, we would like to explain what you can expect when visiting with us.

Courtesy And Kindness

First of all, you will find no exclusive pews for any person. All visitors and members are greeted with courtesy and kindness (Acts 10:34–35; Galatians 3:28).

You will find no tendency toward entertainment with beautiful organ or piano music. Like the first century Christians, we will engage in singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19). The words used in our songs and hymns will be easy to understand (I Corinthians 14:15). God has commanded the sincere praise of His people to come from the heart (Colossians 3:16).

Order And Reverence

You will not be confused by many people speaking or praying at the same time. Good order will prevail at every worship service (I Corinthians 14:33). You will observe one of the brethren leading the

congregation quietly and reverently in prayer (1 Timothy 2:1-5).

If you are present on Sunday, the Lord's day, you will observe the congregation eating bread and drinking the fruit of the vine in memory of the death of Christ (Matthew 26:26–29). We do this on the first day of every week, like Christians in the first century (Acts 20:7).

You will not find special collections taken during our worship services. A collection is taken only on Sunday, the Lord's day (I Corinthians 16:1–3). This congregation is supported by the free will offerings of its members. We do not ask non-members to support our work financially, nor do we engage in fundraising activities like rummage sales and bingo games. We specialize in being a church and do not compete with places of amusement.

The Bible—Our Only Guide

You will observe that the Bible is the textbook to which reference is repeatedly made in our classes and sermons. Special emphasis is placed on that part of the Bible known as the *New Testament*, the law we live under today (2 Timothy 3:16–17; Romans 1:16). You will never be asked to accept what some preacher says about the

Bible—we want you to read the Bible for yourself to see "whether those things are so" (Acts 17:11).

The audience will not be embarrassed or singled out for any demonstration or testimony. You can quietly observe and study that which you see and hear (I Corinthians 14:40).

Salvation In Christ

You will hear obedience to the will of Christ emphasized as necessary to salvation: faith in Christ as taught in the gospel (Romans 10:17); repentance (Luke 24:47); confession of faith in Christ (Romans 10:9–10); and baptism for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).

If there should be a response from someone in the audience to the appeal mentioned above, you will see them taken to a pool of water where, in simple likeness to the burial of Christ, they will be buried in water and raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3–4).

You will be more than welcome at all of our services. Please come and bring your Bible to "search the Scriptures" with us. If you do not have a Bible, we will be happy to give you one.