

# Expectations

What expectations do you have from the Bible study and worship services on Sunday mornings? Let me encourage you to adopt the following expectations and attitudes:

Come to Bible study to learn, with other Christians, how to “obey everything” Jesus commanded. Matthew 28:19

Come to Bible study to share what God is doing in your life. This will encourage others to share and to expect God to work in their own lives. 1 Thessalonians 5:11

Pray, both in the Bible study and during the week, for the members of your group. James 5:16

Show kindness to other group members by helping to meet their needs, when they are sick, grieving, or too busy/exhausted to attend the group. You can take a meal, send a card, phone with news of group events, visit to encourage them, or meet for coffee to catch up. Ephesians 4:32

Pray before you come to worship

- Seek to heal relationships, Matthew 5:23-24.
- Confess sins. 1 John 1:9
- Re-visit your spiritual, physical, and material blessings, giving thanks. 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Come ready to celebrate God’s love and mercy, ready to give Him praise and thanks, ready to encourage those who are hurting and rejoice with those who are rejoicing. Expect to pray to God your thanks and commitment through the hymns, through the choir’s words, along with the ones leading in prayer, and in response to the truth proclaimed by the preacher.

Worship is not a receiving event as much as a giving event. You are to give to God your thanks, your life, your heart, your love. We are not the audience of the pastor, music leader, or choirs. GOD is the audience. We, the ones worshipping, are to be speaking to Him. The worship leaders are trying to lead us into the presence of God. Each of us must boldly, with faith, approach God and give Him ourselves in worship.

Plan to live differently when you leave, based on what you learn and experience with others in Bible Study and the worship of God. Take the truths from Sunday into your prayers each day following.

I encourage you to change your mind and heart about what to expect when we meet on Sundays. You will grow in faith because of it and you will have a positive spiritual effect upon the other members of your church family.