

## Must I Attend Bible Class? By Carl McMurray

**Only if you want to grow.** 1 Peter 2:2. I've never known a man or woman in the body of Christ who distinguished themselves as an able student of the word and a committed disciple – who wouldn't attend Bible class. If you want to grow into an elder, or a deacon, or a teacher someday, you need to be in a Bible class today.

**Only if you want your attitude to be right.** Although I cannot say, giving chapter and verse, that avoiding Bible class is sinful (indeed there are many who must do this for various reasons) yet I believe it to be true that we may surely lose our souls because we did not “want” to be in Bible class. I ask you to consider, who will be forced to go to heaven who did not love and revere God's word, wanting to know and understand more of it? And who is it that loves it, and wants to know more of it who will not attend classes to study it?

**Only if you care about your spiritual family.** Hebrews 10:24-25. We assemble together to study our Creator's words and stimulate one another to higher levels of awareness and obedience. To forsake this effort of concern is to forsake interest and care toward our brethren. Can you imagine one who ignores his physical family and the times they meet together and then tries to convince others how much he cares about that family. He would be laughed to scorn. One who cares about their family will participate in family activities.

**Only if you want your light to shine bright.** Matthew 5:16. Even if you know everything that is being taught in the class (and if that's true, why aren't you teaching?) there are others who don't. Either you need the knowledge that is shared in real Bible study or others need the knowledge you have. Does your example encourage others to be present or discourage them? Are you leading others closer or further away from their Lord?

Bible classes are an important teaching tool we have available to us in this culture and at this time. They have not always been available to Christians in other ages and are not always available to all Christians now. You may be sleepy on Sunday morning or tired on Wednesday night, but don't let this blessing escape you. Make it part of your schedule to...

- 1) come to Bible class,
- 2) come prepared.
- 3) COME ON TIME, and
- 4) encourage others to do likewise.