



Thursday Thought

by Pastor Myron D. Atkinson

VOTE!

Thursday, 11-15-2018

Verse for the week: Hebrews 10:25 (NLT) “And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another...”

Every election day there is a big “Get out the vote” campaign. It doesn’t matter what political party, they all seem to encourage you to vote. We expect the politicians to be vocal about it, but it’s not just them! Individuals get very passionate about it as well. I read a post on social media from an individual that said ***“VOTE!! Do not let excuses stop you from going to the polls today. I know you might be tired... whatever the reason is that might stop you from going to vote, just go vote.”*** This individual was not a politician and no one paid them, yet here they were encouraging others to vote. I agree voting is important, but I started wondering... ***“What if everyone who went to church was just as vocal about going to church and encouraging others to go as they were about voting?”*** Maybe the church could hand out stickers on Sunday mornings that say, “I went to church today!” (Great suggestion Tim Jones!) and we could post pictures all over social media with our stickers proudly showing! Would that build more enthusiasm for church? I am in no way trying to make fun of voting or going to church, both are important! My friend Tim Jones said ***“I think the more our country turns from God the more we will turn toward politics. Because we all want change, we turn toward a source that can create it. Heavenly power or worldly power.”*** Too many Christians have developed a larger passion for their political parties than their churches. We go to church when it’s convenient, and often out of a religious obligation. I believe Christians need to get re-engaged with each other in church and begin doing life together. **Acts 2:42, 46 (NLT) says, “All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer. 46 They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity.”**

Question to ask yourself: What are you passionate about? Are you just doing your religious duty by attending church or are you doing life with other believers?

One hundred religious persons knit into a unity by careful organizations do not constitute a church any more than eleven dead men make a football team. The first requisite is life, always. – A.W. Tozer