

Things That Go Bump In The Church

(Joshua 1:8-9)



- Introduction:
1. You won't have to talk to many people before you find some who are afraid of church.
 2. In this series, have been looking at some of the reasons people give for being afraid of church, and hopefully dispelling some of those fears.

I. People Are Afraid Because They View It As Disrespecting One's Family

- A. We all have histories.
 1. Some involve no church involvement.
 2. Some involve church involvement in a specific sect.
 3. In either case, the decision was in accord with the wisdom and thinking of the parents.
- B. To go against family wishes, or wisdom requires a great deal of courage.
- C. Often times, it can require a great cost.
- D. (John 8:32).
- E. (Matthew 10:34-38).

II. They Are Afraid Because Of The Unknown And Unexpected

- A. People are often afraid of being singled out, embarrassed, or asked to do something that takes them out of their comfort zone.
- B. We need to search out expedient ways to give people assurances.
- C. Do we make our services as "user friendly" as possible?
- D. (1 Corinthians 9:19-22).

III. They Are Afraid Because It Reminds Them Of Things They Don't Like To Think About

- A. At church things like sin, death, judgment, eternity, and Hell are discussed.
- B. Many people use avoidance as a means of dealing with unpleasant issues.
- C. However we need to help people see that many of the things we avoid are things we need to confront.
- D. (2 Corinthians 6:2).

- Conclusion:
1. So you see, there are some things that "go bump in the church," and we need to do our best to identify these things in such a way they don't need to be feared.
 2. Are your fears keeping you from doing the right thing?
 3. Be strong and courageous and obey the Lord!