

## Why Should I Commit Myself to This Local Church?

Scriptures: Ephesians 2:19-22; Luke 14:15-23

### Four cultural influences robbing the church of commitment:

1. A \_\_\_\_\_ mentality
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ attitude
3. A desire for \_\_\_\_\_ and efficiency
4. A desire to \_\_\_\_\_ ourselves because of business. It's referred to as "Cocooning"

### Five reasons within the Church that hinders us from being committed

1. If we don't connect with the \_\_\_\_\_ we will not get involved.
2. If we don't find a good fit to use our \_\_\_\_\_ we are more likely to sit on the sideline
3. If we don't feel like we are \_\_\_\_\_ we can get discouraged and drop out
4. If we don't experience \_\_\_\_\_ relationships, commitment has no meaningful accountability
5. If we are " \_\_\_\_\_ " it affects commitment. The wounded don't go into battle

### Four compelling reasons to commit yourself to the local church:

1. God places us in a church \_\_\_\_\_ for connections. "His Household" (verse 19)
2. The church is the foundation for our spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ with Jesus being the "Chief Cornerstone" (verse 20,21)
3. In Christ we become a holy \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord. (V. 21)
4. Jesus is building you into the community of His \_\_\_\_\_. (verse 22)

### The three most often used excuses for not being committed:

Luke 14:15-23

1. Our property and our possessions can \_\_\_\_\_ our priorities (verse 18)
2. Our work, " \_\_\_\_\_ " can call the shots. (verse 19)
3. Our failed \_\_\_\_\_ not taking our wife to the banquet. (verse 20)

***God can't tolerate the lukewarm – as long as we keep making excuses we will not become committed.*** (Revelation 3:16)

Message by Pastor Mel L. Shetler

Goshen, Indiana

Given at Locust Grove 10/2/12