

#1 Why Church?

Part 3

What does The Church have to offer in the 21st century?

We are here, still, as few as we are, because at the core of all we do and can be and aspire to in life is a reason, a real reason, for being. Don't get me wrong. It is wonderful to be with friends. It is wonderful to get involved in the larger community. It is wonderful to draw support and strength from family and coworkers. Nevertheless, to be involved with a church, an organized religious community, takes all our aspirations to another level.

It is not enough to "be good" or "be nice" or "be involved." Of course we should be all of these things, but ultimately we have to answer the essential question of why. Why should we be good? Why should we be nice to others? Why should we care about what happens in our community or our country or our world? Why shouldn't we just use this life to make as much money as we can and throw everyone under the bus to get what we want? Eat, drink, and be merry!

There must be something more. There must be something that can give us a reason to get involved and be involved with the lives of our fellow human beings. I mean, it's easy to offer time and give money when things are going well for us. It is much more difficult to be involved and be supportive when times are hard or the demands of life are overwhelming or we are consumed with the need to just survive.

What the Church offers, in all its failings, in all its imperfections, in all its highly flawed humanity, is the example of the life, death, and resurrection of the utterly Human One, Jesus of Nazareth, or as he is better known, Jesus the Christ.

Jesus. Just some nice dude, gentle, meek, and mild, who said and did a lot of nice things then died. Good-bye. Or, or, or, maybe there is more to this nice dude than we think.

You see, Jesus was not just a "nice dude." No, far from it. Jesus gives us a reason to live. The whole point of Jesus coming into the world is to teach human beings that life is not just about eating, sleeping, and procreating. The real point of life and living is to love each other and do our best to build each other up so that we can be the best women and men we can possibly be.

Grace and Peace to You!

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Please join us for Sunday Worship at 10:30!

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