**Church Life - Ponderings**

**Build upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets,   
Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone. *(Ephesians 2:20)***

**The bulletin board on the lawn of a New Jersey church reads “We reserve the right to accept everybody.” *(John Kazmark)***

**A synagogue or church that admitted only saints would be like a hospital that admitted only healthy people. It would be a lot easier to run, and a more pleasant place to be, but I'm not sure it would be doing the job it is here to do. *(Harold Kushner, in Who Needs God)***

**Who builds a church within his heart and takes it with him everywhere, is holier by far than he whose church is but a one day house of prayer. *(Morris Abel Baer)***

**Like school, church is another way to give parental guidance a boost. Of course, I can't say that attending church has made my kids less sassy or more grateful. But giving children the means to reach inside to pray, to start the search for solace when there seems nowhere to turn, is like enclosing a favorite blanket in their luggage. *(Jaaquelyn Mitchard, in Parenting)***

**Why must all the churches be closed at night? How often has the wanderer groaned in front of those closed doors? *(Paul Claudel, French author)***

**Some people think a church service is like a convention. So the family sends a delegate. *(Inspiring Quotations, Compiled by Albert M. Wells, Jr.)***

**I’ve never seen anyone excluded from church. On more than one occasion a tiny worshiper has burst into tears. Sometimes I resent the interruption, yet Christ was very clear in his preference for children. He would have welcomed their noise. *(Benjamin Cheever, from Joyful Noise, edited by Rick Moody and Darcey Steinke)***

**Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to the garage makes you a car. *(Laurence J. Peter)***

**Humanitarian work should call on the people as such and not on their capacity as members of any particular church or nation. *(Albert Schweitzer)***

**I like the silent church before the service begins better than any preaching. *(Ralph Waldo Emerson)***

**Some people can create lives of holiness all by themselves, the way Mozart could create immortal music without taking piano lessons, but most of us need a structure and the company of other people to do it. *(Harold Kushner, in Who Needs God, p. 16)***

**Many come to church to bring their clothes rather than themselves. *(Proverb)***

**The Christian church is the only society in the world in which membership is based upon the qualification that the candidate shall be unworthy of membership. *(Charles C. Morrison, in Moody Monthly)***

**The main purpose of the church is to help people to get along without it. *(Henry Drummond)***

**The Church is like a great ship being pounded by the waves of life's different stresses. Our duty is not to abandon ship, but to keep her on course. *(St. Boniface)***

**Everyday people are staying away from church and going back to God. *(Lenny Bruce)***

**The science of yoga will take hold in this age more than anything else. The entire religious trend will be away from churches as we know them and into schools and quiet places where people will go to truly find God in meditation, and not just to have a sermon. Instead of big costly churches with intellectually trained ministers intent on securing more and more religious “customers," small meditation centers should be started in quiet places where a few truth seekers will come and learn the way to commune with God in the company of a few other deeply earnest and deeply meditating persons. *(Yogananda)***

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