It's what Christians do!

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"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:25

"You don't have to go to church to be a Christian!" that's what you hear people say sometimes. And I suppose technically that may be correct. It's not "going to church" that makes a person a Christian, we are Christians through faith in Jesus as our Lord and Savior. But there's something wrong with the whole notion that you can be a practicing Christian without going to church, the two just go together.

Can a person claim to be a football player, and yet not belong to a football team? Can a person say that they are a sailor, but not like boats? Can you be a pilot, and never step foot in an airplane?

The one kind of presupposes the other. Christians go to church, because that's what Christians do. Christians are the church; it's not a building, it's a fellowship of believers, gathered around the Word of God, as the body of Christ in that particular place.

If you say that you are a farmer, but never go out to the farm, people might begin to wonder if you really are what you claim to be–no matter how good you are at "farm talk."

I've heard it suggested that many people in our day and age like to think of themselves as being "spiritual," but not "religious." I've heard people say that they do not like "organized religion," but what other kind of religion is there?

Christianity is a group event, it's not an individual sport; and when we get into the habit of "not meeting together," as the author of Hebrews says, we end up not only cheating ourselves out of the many blessings that our Lord offers to us as we gather together in his name, we cheat our fellow brothers and sisters as well, because if any of us are missing, the body is not complete; our voices of praise and prayer and worship is lacking in fullness. We are not soloists, we are a choir.

Our Lord longs to have His children gathered together as His family in His name; and He who gave His life so that we might belong to him forever is deserving of our heartfelt, sincere—and regular—worship and praise. See you in church!