

## Asking For a Friend

### The Tool of Purpose — What Now After Finding a Church?

**Scripture Focus:** *"Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."* — James 1:22 (NIV)

"Asking for a friend... okay, I found a church—what's next for me? I show up every time the doors are open... I'm a good Christian, right?"

Great question. First, praise God for helping you find a church family! That's a big deal. But here's the thing: showing up is the start—not the finish line. Church is a hospital, a home, and a launchpad. Being present is powerful, but God didn't just call us to sit in rows—He called us to be transformed by His Word and go out to love, serve, forgive, and grow.

It's like saying, *"I want to be a better parent,"* but never making the changes that parenting requires. Being a good parent takes time, sacrifice, consistency, and love. You can say all the right things—but if there's no follow-through, your child won't experience the growth and stability they need. In the same way, saying *"I want to grow in my faith"* means nothing if we're not committed to the process. Without action, our words become empty—and we risk deceiving ourselves with good intentions that never take root. Same with our faith. Just *being in the building* won't build us—but letting God *build something in us* will.

God wants more than attendance—He wants **alignment**. That means:

- Living out what you learn.
- Serving others, not just watching others serve.
- Letting the Word challenge and change you.
- Building relationships that sharpen your walk with Christ.

Don't worry—you're not expected to have it all figured out. You just need to be **willing to grow**.

**Prayer:**

Jesus, thank You for placing us in a church community. We don't want to just go through the motions. Show us how to grow, serve, and walk out the purpose You've planted in us. Help us move from just attending to fully engaging with You and with others. Amen.

**Discussion Questions:**

- Are you currently **consuming** or **contributing** in your church? What might God be prompting you to do?
- In what ways is your faith being stretched or challenged lately?
- How can you take one step from just “showing up” to fully living out your faith?