

Who Does All This?

Ponder: What happens long before you enter the meeting house?

Scripture: “Honor all people; love the brotherhood; fear God; honor the king” (1 Peter 2:17, NKJV).

What do we think when we come into the place where the saints meet? Someone unlocked the building and turned on the lights. Someone adjusted the thermostats to make the temperature comfortable. Someone cleaned the building since last time we met there. Have we ever given these people a pat on the back or said “thanks” to them? Or do we just come in, sit down, and then leave when it’s over, just assuming that everything will be prepared next time also?

Maybe there is a church bulletin or newsletter for you to pick up. Someone maintained the sick list, organized the announcements, located or wrote an appropriate article, printed the bulletin, and placed it in a convenient location. Some are quick to point out any typographical errors, but do we ever express appreciation to those who work?

Someone prepares the bread and fruit of the vine for communion each Lord’s day. While not a monumental task, it must be done, and we ought to appreciate the good work of those who step up.

Who determines which men will lead in various activities during the assembly? This may sound easy, but it’s more complicated than most folks realize. It takes time and effort to avoid having the same person do the same thing each time, while remembering which men are willing to do which jobs.

A Bible class worth teaching or a sermon worth preaching will require many more hours of study and preparation than most class members and listeners recognize. And that goes for the children’s Bible classes, too. Do we express appreciation, or just take it all for granted?

Those responsible for having everything ready when we come in the door are not doing it for the accolades it brings. Likewise, Paul didn’t preach for the pats on the back; yet he said the very brethren who were doubtful about him ought to have been the ones commending him (2 Corinthians 12:11).

Make the effort to give a word of honor to people such as those mentioned herein. If you are one of those people, allow me to say, “Thank you, and keep up the good work!”

Song: “God’s Family”