"Is It Worth the Trouble?"

Dub McClish

The question of our title is one of dismay, discouragement, frustration and perhaps other negative emotions. It is usually provoked by some unsuccessful, unrewarding, and unpleasant experience. It is the prelude to defeat and abandonment of effort. As I write this, I am thinking about our Sunday and Wednesday Bible classes. Is it worth the trouble to continue them?

Our elders must wonder at times if it is worth it when, they see as much as 40% of the church ignore these opportunities on a given Sunday or 60% on a Wednesday night. Surely, those who give freely of their time to teach the classes must often wonder if it is worth the many hours of effort they expend. Your preacher sometimes wonders when he sees so many who come at 9:45 instead of 9:00 on Sunday morning.

It is sad that many of our families do not believe it is worth the trouble to get up in time for classes on Sunday or to make their plans to meet for Bible study on Wednesday night. As incredible as it seems, some parents see nothing amiss in letting their children watch TV cartoons or read the comics during the Bible school hour.

Lest this all appear to be negative, I hasten to say that it is worth all the trouble. We have an excellent corps of teachers and other workers in our Bible school. Untold hours are spent in planning and preparation to determine the best course of study for each department and class. A sizeable portion of our weekly contribution is spent to maintain and improve our Bible classes. All of this is done to make it worth your effort to arrive on time for your appointed class each week.

When was the last time you were in your Bible class? It is ridiculous for several dozen Christians to arrive for the worship hour every Sunday, having ignored the previous hour of Bible study. If you have not been attending your Bible classes on Sunday and Wednesday night, why don't you give it a try, beginning Sunday? I think you will find it to be "worth the troubles."

[**Note:** I wrote this article for and it was published in *Granbury Gospel*, weekly bulletin of the Church of Christ, Granbury, TX, July 18, 1974, of which I was editor.]

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