

Hebrews 13:7-17

Moving on



The trickiest bit in any relay race can be the exchange of the baton. People (even Christians!) can put a whole lot of effort into preparation for changing jobs, moving home, or entering a new life as a married couple, but scarcely give a moment's thought to moving churches. Parents can research a new school for their kids far more than they would check out a new church for their souls. Where does the choice of church feature on your priorities? And how important is it for you to get really stuck in?

Verses 7 and 17 contain a few challenges – and a few assumptions that we need to think through.

➤ Fair assumptions?

Do you think that the language of verses 7 and 17 can really be done justice to by anything other than some kind of church recognised membership list? How else could accountability work?

Do you think that the argument holds together (re 1 Corinthians 5) that you can't be officially removed from something you haven't officially joined?

➤ Moving on

So what are acceptable reasons for “moving on”?

What level of discomfort in church (and over what sorts of matters) does the Scripture just tell us to button it and submit to?

Would it be fair to say that you should never consider moving to an area where you're not sure there is a decent Gospel church that you could happily enough join?

➤ The spirit of the age

... is to “hang loose”, and prefer unaccountability. How far has this “spirit of the age” entered your own soul?