

## “TRUE CHURCH” – Pt.1 .

### **1 Cor 12:18**

<sup>18</sup> But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be

<sup>18</sup> But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased.

### **VISION STATEMENT:**

*"Covenant church exists to Lead people into becoming fully devoted followers of Christ"*

**1. KNOW**

**2. GROW**

**3. GO**

### **Matt 16:18**

"I will build My church" ( "**Ecclesia**", NOT The Greek "*kuriakos*" eventually came to be used in Old English form "*churche*" (kerke), and eventually "*church*" = (a building) that pertains to, or belongs to, a lord."

### **Acts 17:22**

<sup>16</sup> Now while Paul waited for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him when he saw that the city was given over to idols. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and with the *Gentile* worshipers, and in the marketplace daily with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> Then certain Epicurean and Stoic philosophers encountered him. And some said, "What does this babblers want to say?"

<sup>19</sup> And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, "May we know what this new doctrine *is* of which you speak?" <sup>20</sup>

*Addressing the Areopagus*

<sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I perceive that in all things you are very religious; <sup>23</sup> for as I was passing through and considering the objects of your worship, I even found an altar with this inscription:

TO THE UNKNOWN GOD.

Therefore, the One whom you worship without knowing, Him I proclaim to you: <sup>24</sup> God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands.....<sup>27</sup> though He is not far from each one of us; <sup>28</sup> for in Him "we live and move and have our being", as also some of your own poets have said, ‘For we are also His offspring.’

**1 Cor 9:16**, Paul writes -  
(NLT)

<sup>19</sup> Even though I am a free man with no master, I have become a slave to all people to bring many to Christ. <sup>20</sup> When I was with the Jews, I lived like a Jew to bring the Jews to Christ. When I was with those who follow the Jewish law, I too lived under that law. Even though I am not subject to the law,... <sup>21</sup> When I am with the Gentiles who do not follow the Jewish law, I too live apart from that law so I can bring them to Christ....

<sup>22</sup> When I am with those who are weak, I share their weakness, for I want to bring the weak to Christ. Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some. <sup>23</sup> I do everything to spread the Good News and share in its blessings. (NKJ) 22- I have become all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some. <sup>23</sup> Now this I do for the gospel’s sake

### **Bottom Line (One Thing)**

✓ The **REASON** we are **here**, is to **RE-DEFINE** church in this **REGION**.

### **KEYS that Paul used & that we'll Need to RE-DEFINE CHURCH**

1. • **He LEFT the Building** (*What **WE** think is **NORMAL CHURCH***)!
  - **Realized** that **ministry** meant **embracing** Gods **call** the other **6 days** of the **week**, *besides Sunday*

## 2. He looked for COMMON GROUND:

- He **told** them they were "*Very Religious*"
  - **Validated** their **dedication** without **approving** of their **idol** worship
  - Took **advantage** of title- "**Unknown God**"
  - Was **willing** to **STAND** in the **PLACE** where they regularly **sacrificed** to **demonic** spirits and **performed** *witchcraft* rituals!

\*\*\* RELIGION (wikipedia) \* the **service** and **worship** of a God or the **supernatural** (2) : **commitment, devotion** & observance a **personal set** or institutionalized **system** of religious **attitudes**, beliefs, and **practices** a **particular system** of beliefs or worship. 2. **following** the **rules** of a religion.

✓ **Re-Defining Church** means we Reject Religion & Embrace Relationship

✓ The **REASON** we are **here**, is to **RE-DEFINE** church in his **REGION**.

### **Matt 22:37**

<sup>37</sup> Jesus replied, “ ‘You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’\* <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> A second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’\* <sup>40</sup> The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.”

\*\*\*\* He **REJECTED RELIGION** so he could reach them-

- **Encouraged** them instead of **Condemning** them

✓ Re-Defining Church means we **Reject Religion** & **Embrace Relationship**

✓ The REASON we are **here**, is to **RE-DEFINE** church in this **REGION**.

1. **Religion Restricts.** = Rules & Regulations

....**Relationship Releases** Freedom...

2. **\*\*Religion** is about **ME**, look at ME, it's all about ME, only ME, how I want, what I want

**\*\*\* Relationship** is about **WE....**

✓ Re-Defining church means we **Reject Religion** & **Embrace Relationship**

✓ The **REASON** we are **here**, is to **RE-DEFINE** church in his **REGION**.

**\*\*\*** Now, ***let's remember***, this is not **OUR** church -

**Matt 16:18**

"I will build My church"

✓ **Re-Defining** church means we **Reject Religion** & **Embrace Relationship**

✓ **Reject Religion** and **Embrace Relationship** = means is we **Love God** and **People more** than our **man-made** systems and **opinions**

✓ The REASON we are **here**, is to **RE-DEFINE** church in this **REGION**.

**"I Covenant"** to **RE-DEFINE** church in this Region!

**"I WILL"** **Reject Religion** and **Embrace Relationship**