



# What is the Church? Part 4

“Restoring Spiritual Order to the City, the Church, & the Family”

UCC Pastor Ron Burks 5/21/17

Summary: The church is not a place, it is a group of people who make up the body of Christ. Christ gave us the keys to the kingdom of heaven: (1) Walk in the power of the Holy Spirit by seeking Spiritual wisdom (Gal 5:16, 25, James 3:13-18), by bearing fruit (Jn 15:16, Gal 5:22-25), and by putting on spiritual armor to battle Satan (Eph 6:10-20). (2) Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matt 6:33). (3) Be witnesses for Christ (Acts 1:8). (4) Make disciples of Christ (Matt 28:18-20). (5) Glorify God by obeying Him with your life and your witness (John 17:1-4, 22-23). (6) Maintain unity in the body of Christ as a witness to the world that Christ loves them (John 17:22-23), and (7) Live out your faith by loving God with your whole being and loving your neighbors as yourself (Mark 12:30-31).

Our job as Christ followers is to restore spiritual order to the city, the church, and the family:

## 1. THE CITY

Authority (head) in the City (Eph 2:1-3): Prince of the power of the air (Satan) – what this authority produces in the city: dead in sins, follow the course of this world, spirit that leads to disobedience, living in the passions of the flesh (Chaos, division, destruction).

Spiritual Leaders of the City (Eph 2:20): Apostles and prophets  
Responsibility of the Church for the City (Eph 3:10-11, 2:21-22): through the church make known the manifold wisdom of God to the rulers and authorities in heavenly places. This wisdom means the church must establish the cornerstone for the city Christ Jesus, take the whole structure (the city) and join together as the church of Bartow, and bring the city together as a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. This will require churches coming together to do spiritual battle with Satan to retake the city.

## 2. THE CHURCH

Authority (head) in the Church (Eph 4:15): Christ is the head of the church

Spiritual Leaders of the Church (Eph 4:11): apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherds and teachers

Responsibility of the Church (Eph 4:12-16): to equip the saints, build up the body of Christ (4:12), unity of the faith (4:13), spiritual maturity (4:13-14), spiritual growth (4:15), and put Christ followers to work in the Church (4:16)

### 3. THE FAMILY

Authority (head) in the home (1 Cor 11:2, Eph 5:21-23): Christ is the head of the man, the man is the head of the woman

Spiritual Leaders of the home (Eph 5:21-6:4): husbands and wives

Responsibilities of family members in the home (Eph 5:21:6:4)

Husbands/ Fathers – spiritual head of the home, love your wife as Christ loved the church, sanctify your wife, love your wife as yourself/ Don't provoke your children to anger but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord (6:4)

Wives/ Mothers – support her husband through submission and respect/ raise your children to obey and honor their parents and bring them up in the instruction of the Lord

Children – obey your parents