

# Why Do We Need the Church?

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## 1) Instructions

### **Hebrews 10:19-25 (NKJV)**

*Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, and having a High Priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

The Book of Hebrews was primarily written to Jewish Christians (often called Hebrews) who were facing intense persecution and considering turning back to Judaism to avoid suffering.

These are instructions for believers — as a new believer we are to consider one another and to stir up love and good works.

Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some. They were under intense persecution when they gathered.

But exhorting one another and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

**We are instructed!**

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## 2) Intimacy and Love

### **Ephesians 5:25-27 (NKJV)**

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.*

Verse 25 — Sacrificial Love: Paul flips the cultural norms of his day. Rather than using marriage as a system of power, a husband's primary responsibility is radical, unselfish sacrifice. He is called to love his wife to the point of "giving himself up" for her well-being, just as Jesus gave His life for humanity.

Verse 26 — Cleansing and Sanctification: This highlights the transformative power of Christ's love. Just as a groom prepares his bride, Jesus actively purifies His followers (the Church) from sin and sets them apart for a holy, dedicated purpose. This "washing" represents spiritual purification through baptism and the teachings of Scripture.

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June 14, 2026

Verse 27 — Radiant Presentation: This reveals Christ's ultimate goal for the Church — absolute beauty, purity, and perfection. Christ's sacrificial love ultimately results in the Church being made flawless and entirely acceptable in the eyes of God.

So, we are instructed to be attending church and shown the intimacy and love Jesus had for us to be the church.

## **Let's go deeper!**

God loves us so much that He allows and instructs us that it has to be about us personally before it can ever be about other people. So, let's look at the purpose of church internally and then externally.

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## **Internal Purpose**

### **Mutual Encouragement and Steadfastness**

Because our faith can be weakened by sin and the struggles of life, we need the local church to spur one another on, keep each other accountable, and lift each other up.

#### ***Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV)***

*And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

### **Spiritual Growth and Sound Doctrine**

The church provides leadership and corporate teaching to help us mature, preventing us from being misled by false teachings or shifting cultural trends.

#### ***Ephesians 4:11-12 (NKJV)***

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

### **Edification and Love**

We grow best in community. The church is a body where members are intimately connected to share in each other's joys and griefs, speaking truth in love.

#### ***Ephesians 4:15-16 (NKJV)***

*But, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head — Christ — from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

### **Exercising Spiritual Gifts**

God gives every believer specific gifts that are intended to be used within the church for the benefit of the whole congregation, rather than for personal isolation.

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June 14, 2026

## **1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV)**

*As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

### **Bearing Each Other's Burdens**

Life has heavy trials, and God's design is for the church family to walk alongside us, share our loads, and care for our needs.

## **Galatians 6:2 (NKJV)**

*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

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## **External Purpose**

The Church is not just an optional building or event; it is God's divinely designed community. We need the church to experience spiritual growth, receive protection against false teachings, exercise spiritual gifts for others, and serve our communities together.

### **To Grow and Mature in Faith**

We need the collective wisdom, teaching, and encouragement of the church so we aren't easily led astray.

## **Ephesians 4:11-12 (NKJV)**

*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

### **To Encourage One Another**

Life is difficult and we need a community to motivate us toward love, good deeds, and steadfast faith.

## **Hebrews 10:24-25 (NKJV)**

*And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.*

### **To Serve Using Our Unique Gifts**

Every Christian has been given spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit, which are meant to be used collectively to support the whole body.

## **1 Peter 4:10 (NKJV)**

*As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.*

### **To Practice Accountability and Care**

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We are called to help, protect, and carry one another's burdens rather than living isolated Christian lives.

### ***Galatians 6:2 (NKJV)***

*Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.*

### **To Maintain the Truth**

The church acts as a support system and beacon of godly truth in an ever-changing world.

### ***1 Timothy 3:15 (NKJV)***

*...but if I am delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.*

### **To Make Disciples of All Nations**

The church is to raise up Godly leaders that are Spirit-filled, truth-walking, demon-casting, healing the sick — men and women of God.

### ***Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)***

*And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."*

### **To Reveal Jesus Christ to Demons and Angels**

#### ***Ephesians 3:8-13 (NKJV) — Purpose of the Mystery***

*To me, who am less than the least of all the saints, this grace was given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to make all see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the ages has been hidden in God who created all things through Jesus Christ; to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, according to the eternal purpose which He accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him. Therefore, I ask that you do not lose heart at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.*