

I Believe... The Nature of the Church January 2, 2022

I. WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

The church, the Body of Christ, is the primary <u>mechanism</u> for <u>establishing</u> the Kingdom of God in the Earth. It is through the <u>church</u> that we <u>progress</u> to <u>maturity</u>.

II. THE NATURE OF THE CHURCH

A. It is an <u>organism</u>, not an organization.

- B. The <u>organization</u> supports the <u>organism</u>.
- C. God grows the <u>organism</u>; we build the <u>organization</u>.

D. Individual Christians <u>progress</u> toward <u>maturity</u> through our <u>connection</u> with the <u>vine</u>, not the trellis.

III. 5 AREAS OF PERSONAL PROGRESS

- A. <u>Spiritual</u> Progress
- B. <u>Physical</u> progress
- C. <u>Mental/emotional</u> progress
- D. <u>Relational</u> progress
- E. <u>Professional/financial</u> progress