



# Church Membership

Part 2: Church Membership Beautiful!

# 1) It's an opportunity to form a mosaic of Christ for our community!

- **Ephesians 4:13** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
- **Rom 12:4-8** For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup>so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Church Membership is



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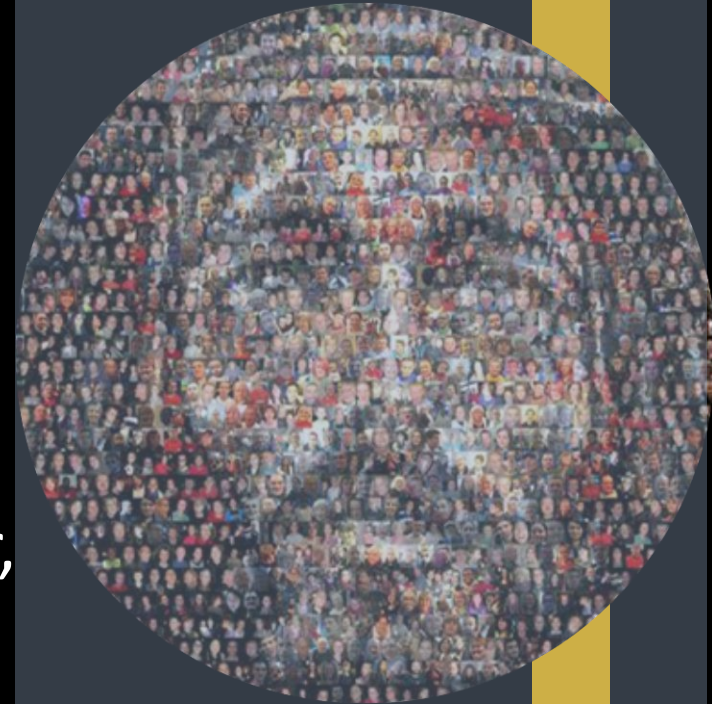


## 2) We are being built together as a dwelling place for God!

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- **Ephesians 2:22** In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.
- **Revelation 3:20** Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

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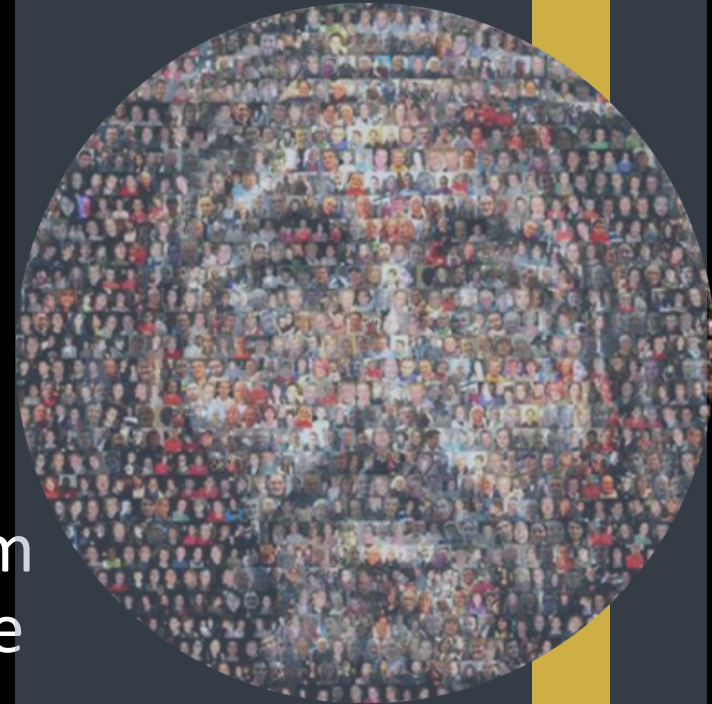


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### 3) God is making us a true spiritual family!

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- **1 Timothy 5:1–3** Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, <sup>2</sup> older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity. <sup>3</sup> Honor widows who are truly widows.
- **Philemon 15–16** For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup> no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.



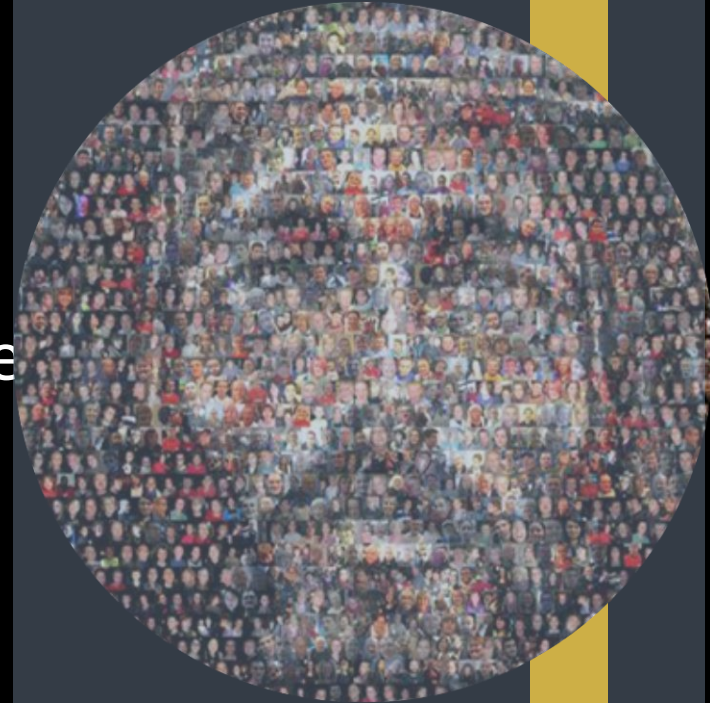
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## 4) We belong to a community of mutual care!

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- **1 Corinthians 12:25–26** that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.
- **Acts 6:1–3**

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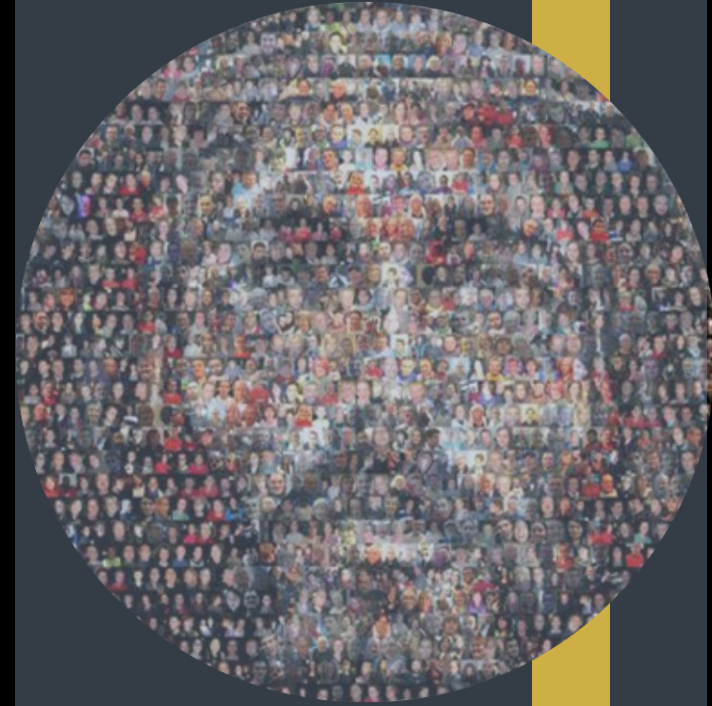


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## 5) We are given the opportunity to spend and be spent for Christ.

- **Luke 12:41-44; 48**
- **2 Corinthians 12:15** I will most gladly spend and be spent for your souls.
- **1 Corinthians 16:19** The churches of Asia send you greetings. Aquila and Prisca, together with the church in their house, send you hearty greetings in the Lord.

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## 6) Church Membership puts people in our life that care enough to confront us about sin!

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- **Matthew 18:15** “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother.”
- **Galatians 6:1–2** Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. <sup>2</sup> Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

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# 7) The Church is true Community!

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- **Ephesians 4:15–16** Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.
- **Colossians 2:19** and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.



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## 8) We have the privilege of having spiritual Shepherds to care for us.

- **Hebrews 13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls...
- **1 Peter 5:2-3** Shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; <sup>3</sup> not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.
- **John 21:15-17**

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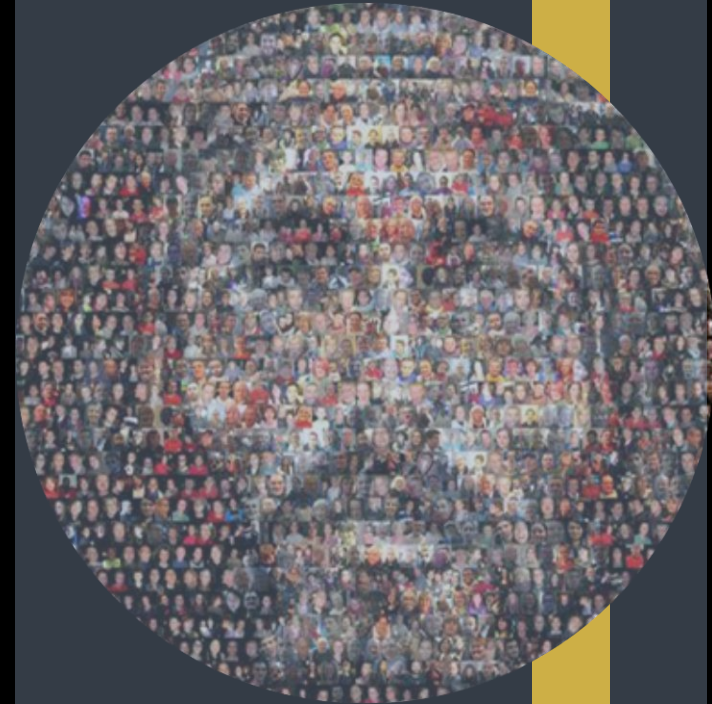
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## 9) Our pastors are God's gift to equip us and strategize with us for the work of the ministry!

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- **Ephesians 4:11–12** And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

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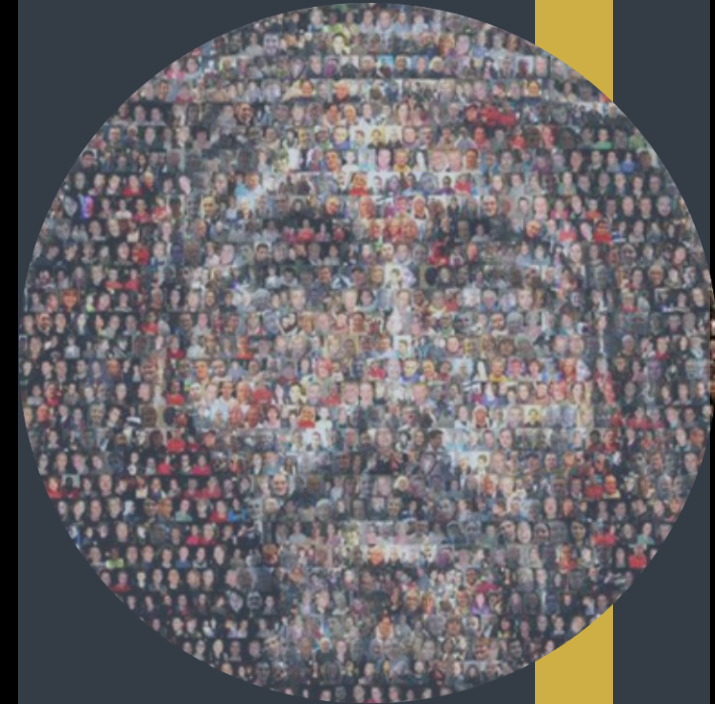


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# 10) We are all partners and fellow-laborers together!

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- **Acts 2:42**
- **Philippians 4:2–3** I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. <sup>3</sup> Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- **Philemon 17** So if you consider me your partner, receive him (Onesimus) as you would receive me.



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# 11) The opportunity to share a reward with church ministry partners!

- **Philippians 4:14-16** Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. <sup>15</sup> And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. <sup>16</sup> Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. <sup>17</sup> Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.

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# 12) Our unity and love are a beautiful and powerful testimony to the world!

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- **John 13:34-35** A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
- **John 17:20-23** “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.



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# Action Points:

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- Determine from God's Word if church membership is biblical.
- Be actively seeking God about whether this church is the church God wants you to join.
- Engage with the body. Church membership is not beautiful in theory, but rather in practice!

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