

Title: *'What About the Church?'*

Key text: 1 Timothy 4:1-16

Suppl. texts: Gen. 3:1b

Introduction: Let's focus on the love lavished on us by the redemptive love of Jesus Christ.

1. What is the Church?

- Not a **building**, but it is the **people** of God.
- Not **bestowed** upon a person or people group.
- The **bride** & the **body** of Christ.
- The **birthplace** of evangelism & disciple making.
- The **breeding** ground of training & application.
- Therefore, the Church is **beyond** important!

2. God's Church is centered on the Word (vs. 1-6)

- A **looming** threat: false teachers.
- The great **imitator**. Always counterfeit.
- **Doubt** & **dilution** are his scheme.
- **Within** the Church. **Legalists** & **ascetics**.

3. God's Church practices the Word (vs. 7-12)

- **Exercise** at the **forefront**.
- **Physical** & **spiritual** training.
- A **Gospel-committed** Church.
- **Labor** & **agonize** over these things.

4. God's Church *matures* in the Word (vs. 13-16)

- For the **edification** of the Church.
- ***Never*** reaching our ***potential***.

- A military term meaning to advance.
- To pioneer the trail.

Sermon notes:

[illegible]

