

THE CHURCH

Ecclesiology





THE “CALLED OUT”

- The word translated ‘church’ in our English bible is usually the word Ἐκκλησία (ekklesia).

ek – from or out of + kaleo – to call

The Church is “The called out”





- **“The church is the community of all true believers for all time.” -- Grudem, p. 853**

Acts 7:38; Heb 11 & 12:1



- **“Gather the people to me, that I may let them hear my words, so that they may learn to fear me all the days that they live upon the earth.”**

Deut 4:10



- **The Church is both visible and invisible.**

Matthew 18 and 1 Cor. 5



**The true church will
be characterized by
distinguishing
marks.**

**CHRIST IS
LORD**

**Jesus Christ is the head
of the Universal
Church.**

Matt 16:18;

Ephesians 1:20-23



METAPHORS

He is the Head of the Body of Christ

1 Cor 12; Col 1:18

He is the Bride Groom of the Bride

Jn. 3:29; Mt.25:1-12; Eph 5:25-32

He is the Shepherd of the Sheep

Jn 10:1-18; Luke 15:1-4-7

He is the Cornerstone of the Temple

1 Cor. 3:16-17; Eph. 2:19-22;



WHOSE CHURCH?

“I will build my church...” **Matt 16:18**

Everything that is happening in our world will serve the purpose of Jesus Christ building His church.



ALL AUTHORITY

Nothing is outside of His authority or control. He is reigning and accomplishing His purposes.



BIBLICAL TEACHING

**The Bible is the core
content of preaching.
Defined and directed
by the Scriptures**

2 Tim 2:15; 2 Tim 3:16-17



Be diligent to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who doesn't need to be ashamed, correctly teaching the word of truth.

2 Tim 2:15



All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for teaching, for rebuking, for correcting, for training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2 Tim 3:16-17



BAPTISM & LORD'S SUPPER

**These two ordinances
function to clarify &
affirm membership in
the Church.**

**Matt 28 and Luke 22:19 &
1 Cor. 11**



TWO ORDINANCES (SACRAMENTS)

- **Baptism** – A public testimony of a believer who is identifying himself with Christ in his death and resurrection. **Col. 2:12-14**
- For believers
- Does not regenerate the unbeliever
- Not required for salvation
- An act of obedience
- A public declaration



TWO ORDINANCES (SACRAMENTS)

- **Communion** (Lord's Supper / Eucharist) – Public declaration of our redemption that only comes from union with Christ in his suffering, death, and resurrection.



A SERVING COMMUNITY

**The Church exists to
serve God, the Body of
Christ and the World**



SERVING GOD - WORSHIP

- A church is marked by regular heart expression of the greatness, majesty, and supreme worth of our Triune God.



SERVING GOD - WORSHIP

- God commands us to worship Him. **Ps. 150**
- God alone is worthy of *all* worship. **Ex. 20:3-6**
- God knows we become like what we love **Ps. 115:8**

Who we worship forms us.



SERVING THE BODY OF CHRIST

- Disciple Making – **Matthew 28 ; Col. 1:28**



Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

Colossians 1:28



SERVING THE BODY OF CHRIST

- Disciple Making – **Matthew 28 ; Col 1:28**
- Encouragement AND Accountability –
Gal 6:1-2; 1Thes 5:14; Matthew 18:15-18
- Providing for physical needs – **1 Jn 3:17;
Jas 2:14-17**



SERVING THE WORLD – WORD AND DEED

- The Church has a God given mandate to proclaim truth in the world.

Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; Luke 24:48-49 & Acts 1:8; John 20:21

Genesis 12; Isaiah 25:7-8; 45:22; 66:20-21



SERVING THE WORLD – WORD AND DEED

- Ministry of mercy to the poor and oppressed.

Gal. 2:10; 6:10; 1 Tim 6:17-19; James 1:27



HOLY SPIRIT DIRECTED & EMPOWERED

Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to the church to indwell, empower, guide, teach.

John 16:4-15;
Acts 2:1-12; 42-47



SPIRITUAL GIFTS

**The Holy Spirit is at work in the Church
is through Spiritual Gifts.**



GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

The Spirit is at work:

- 1. Through me in maturing others.**
- 2. Through others in maturing me.**

“...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...we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ...”

Eph. 4:13-16



SPIRIT FILLED?

What would be the marks of a “Spirit Filled” church?

A Spirit filled church will:

Exalt Jesus

Submit to / obey Jesus

Long to reflect Jesus



“He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

John 16:14



UNITY

The mystery in Ephesians (2:11-3:13) is that God would make “one new man,” one body from the Jews and Gentiles. This has important implications and applications to those in the Body of Christ.



Therefore I, the prisoner in the Lord, urge you to walk worthy of the calling you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and

Ephesians 4:1-6



What is the source of wars and fights among you? Don't they come from your passions that wage war within you? You desire and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and wage war. You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and don't receive because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

James 4:1-3

