



The Church
Pt. 1: EKKLESIA
The Called Out Ones

EKKLESIA: THE CALLED OUT ONES

“I will build my Church” – Jesus

(Matt 16)

Ekklesia: Greek = a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place.

Ekklesia in Septuagint = assembly

Usage: Local and Universal

EKKLESIA: THE CALLED OUT ONES

Definition:

The church is a body of Believers in Jesus Christ summoned by God and called out by Him from among the Jews and Gentiles, who through Christ's death have been savingly reconciled to God and have received new life in the Spirit. It includes all such persons, whether in heaven or on earth. While universal in nature, it finds expression in local groupings of believers that display the same qualities as does the body of Christ as a whole.

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH:

- **Foundation** of the Church before time
- **Old Testament** – Israel, the people of God
- **Jesus** – I will build My Church

Matt. 16:16-19

Peter: “You are the Christ (Messiah, the anointed one), the Son of the living God.”

And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”

“I also say to you that you are Peter (Greek, Petros—a large piece of rock), and upon this rock (Greek, petra—a huge rock) I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.”

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH:

- **The birth of the Church:** Outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- **A new Ekklesia:** Jew and Gentile in one body

NATURE OF THE CHURCH

Many metaphors, images to portray the multifaceted expression that is the Church:

- People of God
- Body of Christ
- Temple of the Holy Spirit

NATURE OF THE CHURCH

“The church of Jesus is a company of people united by faith in Christ, filled by the Holy Spirit, who meet together regularly to hear apostolic doctrine, to share mutual life, worship, prayer, praise and service and who then witness by word and life to the truth of the gospel.” – Robert Culver



The Church
Pt. 2: The Purpose and Unity
of the Church

THE PURPOSE AND UNITY OF THE CHURCH

Matthew 22:36-40 (ESV)

“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

THE PURPOSE AND UNITY OF THE CHURCH

Matthew 28:18-20 (ESV)

And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

1. WORSHIP

(Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul and mind)

2. WORD

(Teaching them to observe all I have commanded them)

3. COMMUNITY

(Discipling, love your neighbour as yourself, ministry)

4. EVANGELISM AND MERCY

(Love your neighbour, go to all nations)

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

1. WORSHIP

John 4:24

God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

Col 3:16

“...singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs... “

Phil 3:3

We..”worship by the Spirit of God.”

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

1. WORSHIP

Colossians 3:23 (ESV)

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

2. WORD

Deut. 8:3

“...man does not live by bread alone...”

Psalm 18:30

“...the word of the Lord proves true...”

Psalm 119:105

“Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

2. WORD

Isaiah 55:10-11 (ESV)

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

2. WORD

Matt. 4:4

“...man shall not live by bread alone...”

John 8:31-32

“...abide in my word...”

John 14:23

“If anyone loves me , he will keep my word”

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

2. WORD

1 Timothy 3:15 (ESV)

If I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

Acts 2:42-47/Acts 4:31-37

Devoted to receiving teaching together;

They were together;

They shared their possessions;

They walked out their lives together;

They broke bread together;

They shared their meals together

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

Acts 2:42-47/Acts 4:31-37

Praised God together;

Were of one heart and one soul;

Not a needy one among them;

Those saved were added to their number daily;

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

Discipleship & Ministry:

Eph. 4:3

Eager to maintain the unity of Spirit;

Col 1:28

Warning everyone and teaching everyone;

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

Eph. 4:12

To equip the saints;

Heb.10:23-27

Stir up one another; meet together; encouraging one another.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

One another scriptures:

Be at peace with one another;

Wash one another's feet;

Love one another;

Outdo one another in showing honour;

Live in harmony with one another;

Welcome one another;

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

One another scriptures:

Comfort one another;

Agree with one another;

Bear one another's burdens;

Be kind to one another;

Forgive each other;

Bear with one another.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

3. COMMUNITY

Hebrews 13:2 (ESV)

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

4. EVANGELISM AND MERCY

Acts 2:47 (ESV)

Praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Eph. 6:15 (ESV)

And, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

4. EVANGELISM AND MERCY

John 17:21 (ESV)

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.

THE PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH

4. EVANGELISM AND MERCY

MERCY:

Justice and equity;

Righteousness and justice;

Love your enemies;

Be merciful.

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH IS AN AIM AND A MESSAGE

- **The fullness of Him who fills all in all;**
- **Called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;**
- **Be united in the same mind and the same judgment;**

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH IS AN AIM AND A MESSAGE

Ephesians 4:12-13 (ESV)

To equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 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,

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH IS AN AIM AND A MESSAGE

“Coming under the loving Lordship of Jesus Christ, and being joined to a community of imperfect people, who are learning to live a new life in a new way.”

(“Authentic” Christianity: Larry Tomszack)

THE UNITY OF THE CHURCH IS AN AIM AND A MESSAGE

Psalm 133:1-3 (ESV)

Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!
It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard,
on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! It
is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life
forevermore.