



## WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT: THE CHURCH

### SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

*...on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. (Matthew 16:18)*

ἐκκλησία ekklēsia: people gathered together

*His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, (Ephesians 3:10)*

*Give my greetings to the brothers and sisters at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. (Colossians 4:15)*

Jesus built the church to equip us.

*So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-13)*

The church is not a civic club.

The church is a family.

*So now, you Gentiles are not strangers among God's people anymore. You belong to the group of God's people that he rules. You belong to God's family, as all God's people do. (Ephesians 2:19 EEB)*

*They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, (Acts 2:42-46)*

The church is Christ's Bride.

*Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless. (Ephesians 5:25-27)*

*Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure"— for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. (Revelation 19:7-8 ESV)*

The church is the Body of Christ.

*Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27)*

We are His hands and feet.

*Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." (John 20:21)*

Our actions can affect the Kingdom.

*Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us. (1 John 4:11-12)*

Being a part requires effort.

*and let us consider [thoughtfully] how we may encourage one another to love and to do good deeds, not forsaking our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more [faithfully] as you see the day [of Christ's return] approaching. (Hebrews 10:24-25 AMP)*

Being a part requires sacrifice.

*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. (James 1:27)*

Being a part requires humility.

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. (Philippians 2:3-4)*

Being a part requires perseverance.

*... you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. (Matthew 24:9-13)*

Worship Together

Pray For One Another

Serve Together

Learn From Each Other

Love Each Other

Reach Our Community