

About The Church

Theology of The Church

1. **The Church Was Established By Jesus** (Matthew 16:18; 1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:20)
2. **The Church Is Filled By The Holy Spirit** (Acts 1:8; Acts 2:38; Ephesians 2:22)
3. **The Church Is The Body of Christ** (Colossians 1:18 & 3:15; Ephesians 1:23 & 4:12, 16; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 27)
4. **The Church Is The Bride of Christ** (Ephesians 5:25-32)
5. **The Church Is The House of God** (1 Peter 2:5; Psalm 122:1; Ephesians 2:19-22; 1 Timothy 3:15; Hebrews 3:6)
6. **The Church Is All People Belonging To God** (1 Corinthians 12:12-14)
7. **The Church Is A Local Assembly of People Belonging To God** (Hebrews 10:25; Colossians 3:16; Matthew 18:20; 1 Corinthians 14:26; Psalm 111:1)
8. **The Church Is A Body of Unique and Essential People** (1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Romans 12:5; Ephesians 4:16)
9. **The Church Has Leaders** (1 Peter 5:1-4; Ephesians 4; Titus 1:7-9; Acts 14:23 & 20:28; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Corinthians 12:28; 1 Timothy 3-4)
10. **The Church Has Authority And Power** (Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8)
11. **The Church Has A Purpose** (Matthew 28:18-20; Matthew 22:36-40; 1 Peter 2:9; Colossians 1:24-29; Ephesians 4:11-16)
12. **The Church Is Winning** (Matthew 16:18; Romans 14:11; Revelation 3:21 & 11:15)

The Purposes of The Church

1. **Ministry to God: Worship** (Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 1:12 & 5:16-19)
2. **Ministry to Believers: Growth** (Colossians 1:28; Ephesians 4)
3. **Ministry to The World: Evangelism & Mercy** (Matthew 28:19; Luke 6:35-36)

If I really believe this about The Church, how should it change my life?

1. I Should Be Devoted To My Church

Acts 2:42-47

42 They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. 43 Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common. 45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. 46 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, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Ephesians 5:1, 25-32

1 Be imitators of God, therefore, as beloved children ...

25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her 26 to sanctify her, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, 27 and to present her to Himself as a glorious church, without stain or wrinkle or any such blemish, but holy and blameless.

28 In the same way, husbands ought to love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. 29 Indeed, no one ever hated his own body, but he nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church. 30 For we are members of His body.

31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This mystery is profound, but I am speaking about Christ and the church.

2. I Should Be Devoted To My Church Family

1 Timothy 3:15

...you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

Hebrews 10:24-25

24 And let us consider how to spur one another on to love and good deeds. 25 Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Romans 12:10

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Outdo yourselves in honoring one another.

Galatians 6:10

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to the family of faith.

CCC Heart Attitudes

1. **Put the goals & interests of others above our own** (Philippians 2:3-4)
2. **Live an honest, open life before others** (1 John 1:7)
3. **Give & receive scriptural correction** (Hebrews 3:13)
4. **Clear up relationships** (Matthew 5:23-24)
5. **Participate in the ministry of the church** (Ephesians 4:16)
6. **Support the church financially** (Matthew 23:23)
7. **Follow spiritual leadership within scriptural limits** (Hebrews 13:17)

Ephesians 4:2-4

2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. 3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. 4 For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

3. I Should Be A Functional Part of My Church

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance as our way of life.

1 Corinthians 12:4-7

4 There are different gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are different ministries, but the same Lord. 6 There are different ways of working, but the same God works all things in all people. 7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

Ephesians 4:16

...We will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. 16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.