

THE CHURCH

INTRODUCTION:

- Our world has a wide range of opinion on what is the “Church”
- Q) What is the Church?

A. WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

The Body of Christ: Colossians 1:15-18

- Jesus is the head of the body—the Church
- The body of Christ is the Church
- The Church is absolutely essential to Christianity

A Family: Acts 2:42-47

- Devoted to one another—a family, close relationships
- Devoted to scripture and prayer
 - Q) Are you willing to make a commitment to the Word of God and prayer daily?
- Devoted to Lord’s supper—remembering our covenant with Christ
- Met each other’s needs
- A growing family—souls were saved

B. WHO IS IN THE CHURCH? EPHESIANS 4: 4-6

- One body—God only see’s disciples,
- Q) How does someone become a member of God’s Church?
 - One baptism—those who have been baptized into Christ (Gal 3:27)
- One Lord—submits to the Lordship of Jesus
 - Q) Are there any areas of your life that would be difficult to submit to the Lordship of Jesus?
- Further study (if needed): Why are there so many different denominations?
 - 1 Corinthians 1:10-12 Following personalities has caused divisions
 - 2 Timothy 4:3-4 Turning away from truth has caused divisions

C. COMMITMENT TO THE CHURCH

Using our gifts and talents: Ephesians 4:15-16

- God calls us to use our talents and resources to build His Church/His Body
- Everyone has a role and function in the Church

Commitment to the fellowship: Hebrews 10: 23-25

- Hold unswervingly—never quit on God or His Church
- Spur one another on—great discipling relationships
- Come to the meetings of the body—Sundays, Midweeks, Retreats, etc.

Tithing: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

- Generous in our giving
- A cheerful giver
- A tithe (10%)

Conclusion: What sacrifices do you need to make to be a committed part of the Lord’s Church?