



### SEMESTER 1 - WEEK 3

## ECCLESIOLOGY [THE CHURCH]

### What is the church?

- The church universal:
- The church local:

### PICTURES OF THE CHURCH

- Body - **Romans 12:5**
- Building - **I Peter 2:5**
- Temple - **II Corinthians 6:16**
- Bride - **Ephesians 5:22-32**
- Flock - **John 10:16**
- Vine/Branches - **John 15**

### THE INCEPTION OF THE CHURCH

- **Matthew 16:18, 18:15-20**
- **Acts 1:5; Acts 2**
- **Ephesians 2:20-22**

## THE TASK OF THE CHURCH

### Early examples:

- Expand - **Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2:41**
- Teach, fellowship, break bread, and prayer - **Acts 2:42**
- Gathering, preaching, teaching, encouraging, giving, sending - **Acts 11:19-30**

### Pastoral epistles [I Timothy 3:14-15]:

- Protect God's people from false teaching - **I Timothy 1:3; 4:1-6**
- Pray for government leaders - **I Timothy 2:18**
- Instruct women - **I Timothy 2:9-15**
- Read the Word publicly - **I Timothy 4:13**
- Exhort and teach - **I Timothy 4:13**
- Confront sin - **I Timothy 5:1-2; 20-21**
- Care for widows - **I Timothy 5:3**
- Ordain some for service - **I Timothy 5:22, 24-25**
- Instruct slaves, instruct the rich - **I Timothy 6**
- Cling to truth, faith, and love in Christ - **II Timothy 1:13**
- Disciple men - **II Timothy 2:2**
- Rehearse the gospel - **II Timothy 2:8-13**
- Teach holy living - **II Timothy 2:19-23**
- Refute and correct false teaching - **II Timothy 2:23-26**
- Sniff out wolves - **II Timothy 3:1-9; 4:15**



- Prepare God's people for persecution - **II Timothy 3:10-12**
- Continue to teach, reprove, correct, and train with the Word - **II Timothy 3:14-17**
- Preach the Word - **II Timothy 4:1-4**
- Do the work of evangelism - **II Timothy 4:5**
- Appoint qualified leadership - **Titus 1:5-9**
- Silence rebellious men and false teachers - **Titus 1:10-16**
- Speak sound doctrine - **Titus 2:1**
- Instruct men and women - **Titus 2:1-8**
- Encourage godly living - **Titus 3:8**
- Avoid foolish controversies - **Titus 3:9**
- Reject factious people - **Titus 3:10-11**
- Encourage God's people to meet pressing needs - **Titus 3:14**

**The one another's:**

- Accept one another - **Romans 15:17**
- Admonish one another - **Romans 15:14, Colossians 3:16**
- Be at peace with one another - **I Thessalonians 5:13**
- Be devoted to one another in brotherly love - **Romans 12:10**
- Be hospitable to one another - **I Peter 4:9**
- Be humble toward one another - **I Peter 5:5**
- Be kind to one another - **Ephesians 4:33**
- Be of the same mind with one another - **Romans 12:16, 15:5**



- Be subject to one another - **Ephesians 5:21**
- Bear one another's burdens - **Galatians 6:2**
- Bear with one another - **Colossians 3:13**
- Build up one another - **Romans 14:19; I Thessalonians 5:11**
- Care for one another - **I Corinthians 12:25**
- Comfort one another - **I Thessalonians 4:18**
- Confess your sins to one another - **James 5:16**
- Do not challenge one another - **Galatians 5:26**
- Do not complain against one another - **James 5:9**
- Do not envy one another - **Galatians 5:26**
- Do not judge one another - **Romans 14:13**
- Do not lie to one another - **Colossians 3:9**
- Do not repay one another evil for evil - **I Thessalonians 5:15**
- Do not speak against one another - **James 4:11**
- Do not sue one another - **I Corinthians 6:7**
- Encourage one another - **Hebrews 3:13; 10:25; I Thessalonians 5:11**
- Forgive one another - **Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13**
- Greet one another - **Romans 16:16; I Corinthians 16:20; II Corinthians 13:12;**  
**I Peter 5:14**
- Fellowship with one another - **I John 1:7; Hebrews 10:25**
- Love one another - **Romans 13:8; I Thessalonians 3:12; 4:9**



- Pray for one another - **James 5:16**
- Prefer one another - **Romans 12:10**
- Regard one another as more important than yourself - **Philippians 2:3**
- Seek good for one another - **I Thessalonians 5:15**
- Serve one another - **Galatians 5:13; I Peter 4:10**
- Speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs - **Ephesians 5:19;**

**Colossians 3:16**

- Speak truthfully to one another - **Ephesians 4:25**
- Stimulate one another to love and good deeds - **Hebrews 10:24**
- Tolerate one another - **Ephesians 4:2**
- Wait for one another - **I Corinthians 11:33**
- Wash one another's feet - **John 13:14**

*“The New Testament knows nothing of a “Lone Ranger” Christian. Christians have been placed by God into the body, the building, the church universal...and that placement is intended by God to be manifest in a local body of believers.” -Smedly Yates*

## **THE STRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH**

### **Offices:**

- Elder - **I Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9; Acts 6:4; 14:23**
- Deacon - **I Tim 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-6**

### **Body and members:**

- **Romans 12:4-8**



### **Additional instructions for the church:**

- **Matthew 18:15-20**
- Church ordinances:
  - Baptism
  - Communion
- Exercising of spiritual gifts - **I Corinthians 12-14; Romans 12:6-8**

### **Additional considerations for the church:**

- Explicit instruction versus individual freedoms
- The church and missions
- How do you define a good church?

## **TRUSTING GOD'S PERFECT WISDOM IN USING IMPERFECT MEANS**

### **Do I love the church as I must?**

- **II Timothy 2:10**
- **Acts 20:17-38**

### **How do I navigate hurt and difficulty?**

### **How do I think through various concerns?**

- "I'm not getting anything out of....."
- "No one reaches out to me"
- "The church isn't meeting my needs?"



## MINISTRY PASSAGES

### THE CHURCH

#### Ephesians 4:16 — The Body Causes the Growth of the Body

16 *From whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.*

#### Matthew 28:19-20 — Make Disciples

19 *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,*  
20 *teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”*

#### Matthew 18:15-20 — Church Discipline and Restoration

15 *“If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.*  
16 *“But if he does not listen to you, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.*  
17 *“If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.*  
18 *“Truly I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.*  
19 *“Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven.*  
20 *“For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst.”*



## **Ecclesiology**

### **QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

1. Where do you see your love for the church being strong? Where do you see your love for the church needing to grow?

2. Is there anything in your thinking about the local church that needs to change in response to this lesson?

3. How would you help someone who desires to grow in their love and commitment to the local church?

