

The Kind of Church Jesus Started

A church is a covenanted group of at least two or three baptized disciples of Jesus Christ which was constituted by His authority alone.

The numbers, *two* or *three*, are given by our Lord Himself. (cf. Mt. 18.16) Because He began His own church during His earthly ministry there was a day when he began to call disciples to Himself to be a part of His church. The first of these disciples that He called were brothers: Peter and Andrew. So here are two. Then because the Lord Jesus was *present* with them there are three. This detail prevents us from the error that I have heard in some. When inquiring as to which church they are a part of they reply, 'Oh, it is me and the Lord.' That is not a church! Since our Lord's resurrection as few as two baptized disciples can constitute into one of the Lord's churches when they agree together for that purpose. (cf. 1Co.16.19, Aquila and Prisca)

This kind of church has continued in existence since Christ started His first church unto this day. The mission of this kind of church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ by baptizing those who profess faith in Christ at the hearing of His preached Word. These disciples should either come into this kind of church or begin this kind of a church. The Holy Spirit will teach the things of Christ to this church as they search the Scriptures and apply those things that they are taught. Its doctrine and manner of life should be derived from the Scriptures, meaning the *Old and New Testament Scriptures. This kind of church is autonomous or self-governing. That means that every member is subject to Christ in His Word, and as they follow Christ they are subject to one another. This kind of church has no authority of her own. None but Christ is over her and her jurisdiction pertains only to her members. This kind of church continues in her existence at the sole discretion of her Lord, Jesus Christ. And it is this kind of church that shall be perpetuated in the earth by Christ Himself unto His second coming. (Mt.16.18; 28.20)

Every professing believer of Jesus Christ, by use of the Word of God, can prove whether or not a church is a church which Jesus started. Are you a part of a church that Jesus started?

*The New Testament Scripture is the operator's manual for the use of the Old Testament.

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