

What does the church do for me?

Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock **I will build my church;** and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

- I think that many would question what value the church has
- I think God's Word answers that question
- You might say why should I be a member of the church
- Why should I attend
- What relevance does the church have to my life

1. God uses the church to teach us!

- a. The Lord ordered the church to teach all things

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **19** Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **20** **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I**

have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

- i. The apostles were not simply to take the good news to the world
 - ii. They were not simply to teach people to be saved
 - iii. They were not simply to get people baptized
 - iv. They were to teach them to live out the new life that God had given them
 - v. They had been taught and now they were to teach
- b. This is the practice we see in the early church

Acts 2:41 Then they that **gladly received**

his word were baptized: and the same day there were **added** unto them about three thousand

souls. **42** And they **continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.

- c. God told His pastors and teachers that they were to mature the saints for the work of the ministry

Ephesians 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and

some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some,
pastors and teachers; ¹² For the
perfecting of the saints, for the **work** of the
ministry, for the **edifying** of the body of Christ: ¹³
Till we all come in the **unity of the faith,** and
of the **knowledge of the Son of God,**
unto a **perfect man,** unto the measure of the
stature of the fulness of Christ: ¹⁴ That we henceforth
be **no more children,** tossed to and fro, and
carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the
sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they
lie in wait to deceive; ¹⁵ But speaking the truth in love,
may **grow up into him in all things,**
which is the head, even Christ: ¹⁶ From whom the
whole body fitly joined
together and compacted by that which
every joint supplieth, according to the

effectual working in the **measure of every**

part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

d. God's men were to teach the Scriptures [I Timothy 4:6](#)

If thou **put the brethren in**

remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a

good minister of Jesus Christ,

nourished up in the words of faith and of **good**

doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained. [7](#) But

refuse profane and old wives'

fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.

i. They were to teach truth not whatever [Titus 2:1](#) But

speak thou the things which become **sound**

doctrine:

ii. They were to stand firm in teaching truth no matter

how people responded [Titus 2:15](#) These things

speak, and exhort, and rebuke with all authority.

Let no man despise thee.

- iii. They were to speak the Word of God to His people
Hebrews 13:7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have **spoken unto you the word of God:** whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.
- e. There were to be men who labored in teaching and preaching **I Timothy 5:17** Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who **labour in the word and doctrine.**
- i. Teaching them Bible was more important than more impressive things **I Corinthians 14:4** He that speaketh in an unknown tongue **edifieth himself;** but he that **prophesieth edifieth the church.** **5** I would that ye all spake with tongues, but **rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that**

speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

ii. That prophesying there refers to preaching, speaking out the Word of God

iii. God's men are to feed His people His Word

I Peter 5:1 The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed:² **Feed the flock of**

God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; **Acts 20:28** Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to **feed the church of God,** which he hath purchased with his own blood.

iv. The food is the Word of God **Hebrews 5: 12** For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first

principles of the oracles of God;

and are become such as have need of **milk, and not of strong meat.** ¹³ For every one that **useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe.** ¹⁴ But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil.

- v. Everyone is supposed to be teaching each other and encouraging others to do the same [Colossians 3:16](#)

Let the **word of Christ dwell in you richly** in all wisdom; **teaching and admonishing** one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

2. The church is here to protect us

- a. Pastors are supposed to be worried about our souls [Hebrews 13:17](#) **Obey them that have the rule over**

you, and submit yourselves: for they **watch for your souls, as they that must give account,** that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

- b. The pastors were warned that people would be bringing in false doctrine [Acts 20:28](#) **Take heed** therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to **feed the church of God,** which he hath purchased with his own blood. [29](#) For I know this, that after my departing shall **grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock.** [30](#) Also **of your own selves** shall men arise, **speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.** [31](#) Therefore **watch, and remember,** that by the space of three years I

ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears. ³² And now, brethren, **I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace,** which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified.

c. Satan would try to destroy God's people

^{II Timothy 2:24} And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, ²⁵ In meekness instructing **those that oppose themselves;** if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; ²⁶ And that they **may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.**

d. Biblical correction will protect us ^{I Thessalonians 5:12} And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which **labour**

among you, and are over you in the Lord, and
admonish you;

- e. God's men were to be preaching His Word and look at what they were to do **II Timothy 4:2** Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; **reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.** ³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; ⁴ And they shall **turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables.**

3. The church is where you serve and participate

- a. We are members of the body **I Corinthians 12:27** Now ye are the body of Christ, and **members in particular.**

- b. We are connected, members of each other [Romans 12:5](#)
So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and **every one members one of another.**
- c. Every member is important [I Corinthians 12: 14](#) For the body is not one member, but many. [22](#) Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, **are necessary:**
- d. Our fellowship is centered around Jesus and the Father [I John 1:3](#)
That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have **fellowship with us:** and truly **our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.**
- e. Our fellowship is based on the Word of God [Acts 2:42](#) And they **continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- f. Our fellowship has a great objective [Philippians 1:5](#)

- g. We pray together [Acts 2:42](#) And they **continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.
- h. We are to be concerned for each other [I Corinthians 12:25](#) That there should be no schism in the body; but that **the members should have the same care one for another.** ²⁶ And whether **one member suffer, all the members suffer with it;** or one member be honoured, **all the members rejoice with it.**
- i. We sing and worship together [Acts 2:47](#) **Praising God,** and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

- Are you involved in the church
- Do you see the importance of the church in the Bible
- How is that going to affect your daily life