

Message Notes

"What is a church? Para=church?"

Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

Introduction – A Review of a Major Point from last week

What's the point of church?

Ephesians 3:10-11

Missio Dei

Christology

Ecclesiology

Misseology

Two verses that Jesus spoke in the Gospels about the church

Matthew 16:18

Matthew 18:17

What is the universal church?

What is a local church?

What makes up a healthy local church?

1. Scriptural Authority (1 Timothy 3:4-15)
2. Corporate Worship (1 Corinthians 11:17-22)
3. Covenanted Community (Acts 2:42-47)
4. Biblical Leadership (Titus 1:5, also see Acts 20:13-38, 1 Timothy 3:1-7)
5. Mission (John 20:21)
6. Baptism and Lord's Supper (Matthew 28:16-20)

A short history of the church

Is a Bible Study or Parachurch a church?

Application – "What is Jesus asking you to think about his bride?"

Ephesians 3:10-11

¹⁰His intent was that now, through the church, the manifold wisdom of God should be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly realms, ¹¹according to his eternal purpose which he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Matthew 16:18

And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 18:17

¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.

1 Timothy 3:14, 15

¹⁴Although I hope to come to you soon, I am writing you these instructions so that, ¹⁵if I am delayed, 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.

1 Corinthians 11:17-22

¹⁷In the following directives I have no praise for you, for your meetings do more harm than good. ¹⁸In the first place, I hear that when you come together as a church, there are divisions among you, and to some extent I believe it. ¹⁹No doubt there have to be differences among you to show which of you have God's approval. ²⁰When you come together, it is not the Lord's Supper you eat, ²¹for as you eat, each of you goes ahead without waiting for anybody else. One remains hungry, another gets drunk. ²²Don't you have homes to eat and drink in? Or do you despise the church of God and humiliate those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you for this? Certainly not!

Acts 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. ⁴³Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All the believers were together and had everything in common. ⁴⁵Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Titus 1:5

The reason I left you in Crete was that you might straighten out what was left unfinished and appoint elders in every town, as I directed you.

John 20:21

Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you."

Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."