

The Church:
Fellowship and Worship

Lesson 9



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Lesson Outline



- I. The Church Universal
- II. The Local Church
- III. Fellowship
- IV. Worship
- V. Application

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The Church Universal



- What are the biblical guidelines for selecting a church?
- What is the purpose of the church?

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The Church Universal



- What is the difference between the UNIVERSAL Church and the LOCAL Church?

The Church



- The Universal Church is a body of believers, referred to as the Body of Christ.
- The Local Church is a smaller group of believers that come together to worship, fellowship, to exercise their spiritual gifts in serving one another, receive teaching from the Bible, and evangelize in a local area.

I. The Church as the Body



The Church is not a physical building, but a group of believers; not a denomination, sect, or association, but a spiritual Body. The church is not an organization, but ... a communion, a fellowship that includes all believers.” — John F. MacArthur, Jr.

I. The Church as the Body(/)



- Christ is the Head of the Church
- Colossians 1:18 and Ephesians 5:23
- What price did Christ pay to purchase Church?
- (Acts 20:28)
“He purchased with His own blood.”

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I. The Church as the Body(/)



- A. The Body is made up of Believers:
We are called into the body
Colossians 3:15
We are baptized into the body
1 Corinthians 12:13.

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I. The Church as the Body



- Each Believer has a Unique Function Within the Body
- Turn in your Bibles to:
I COR 12:12-27

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The Church as a Family



- We are all Children of God

[John 1:12](#)

- We are brothers and sisters

[1 COR 7:15](#)

God is our Father; Christ is our brother

[Hebrews 2:11 & 17](#)

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II The Local Church



The New Testament describes how believers came together in small groups to worship Christ, receive instruction from the Scriptures, meet one another's needs, pray, and evangelize.

A. The Local Church Illustrated

1. Where did the believers meet before they had church buildings? ([Romans 16:5; 1 Corinthians 16:19](#))
In houses.
2. On what day of the week did they meet? ([Acts 20:7](#))
The first day of the week (Sunday).

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II The Local Church



List four things to which the early church was devoted
([Acts 2:42](#)):

- a. Apostles' doctrine –teaching
- b. Fellowship
- c. Breaking of bread
- d. Prayers

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II. The Local Church



- **Teaching**

The early church was devoted to the apostles' teaching:

1 Pet 2:2

God gave the church gifted
pastors/teachers for the equipping of the
saints- Eph 4:11-12

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II. The Local Church



Elders/Overseers

- Elders were appointed in every church-

▪ Acts 14:23

▪ Elders are to rule- 1 Tim 5:17

a. The qualifications of an elder or overseer are stated
in

1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:6-9.

b. What are the two major responsibilities of an elder?

(1Peter 5:1-2)

Shepherd the flock

Serve as an overseer (watch over them).

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II. The Local Church



- **What is the Responsibility of Believers to the Elders?**
- (Hebrews 13:17)
- **We are to obey them and submit to their leadership.**

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II. The Local Church



Deacons

The Word “deacon” means “servant.” The deacons are to minister to the needs of the flock under the direction of the elders of the church. The qualifications of deacons are stated in [1 Timothy 3:8-13](#).

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II. The Local Church



Members of the body

What does [Hebrews 10:25](#) warn believers not to neglect?

- Assembling themselves together and exhorting one another.
- As a body of believers how are we to respond to those who are our teachers [Hebrews 13:7](#)
- That we should observe their godly lives and follow their example of faith.

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II. The Local Church



How should those who are appointed to preach and teach be supported?

a. [1 Corinthians 9:14](#):

By faith (by the gospel).

b. [Galatians 6:6](#):

By sharing from those who are being taught.

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III. Fellowship



The Bible uses the Greek word *koinonia* to describe fellowship within the body of Christ. That word means “participation with others in a common purpose.” The Latin equivalent is communion pointing to the *communion* that is shared with other believers as well as with God.

A. What is God’s desire for every local church?

([1 Corinthians 1:10](#))

Speak the same message, no divisions (quarrels), perfectly joined (united) together in the same mind and judgment.

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III. Fellowship



B. In [Ephesians 4:2-3](#):

1. What will promote unity? ([verse 2](#))

Lowliness, gentleness, longsuffering, bearing with others in love.

2. What is our responsibility ([verse 3](#))?

To endeavor to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

3. Be Humble, see others as more important than yourself- [Phil 2:1-4](#)

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III. Fellowship



- Can fellowship be enjoyed with non-believers? [2 COR 6:12-15](#)

- Why is it that true fellowship cannot be enjoyed with those who do not believe in Christ? [Answer](#)

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III. Fellowship

- Ministering to ‘One another’ in the church
- Love one another – [1 Thess 4:9](#)
- Have patience toward one another-
[Rom 15:5](#)
- Comfort one another – [II Cor 1:4](#)
- Encourage and build up one another-
[1 Thess 5:11](#)
- Have fellowship with one another-
[1 John 1:7](#)



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III. Fellowship



Fellowship within the body of Christ involves sharing in each other’s lives. Below are some areas in which Christians should minister to one another:

1. [Romans 14:19](#):
Pursuing things that make for peace and mutual edification.
2. [Galatians 5:13](#):
Serving one another.

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III. Fellowship



Serving one another continued

3. [Galatians 6:2](#):
Bearing one another’s burdens.
4. [James 5:16](#):
Praying for one another.

What has God given to each Christian to help him or her minister to others within the church? ([1 Peter 4:10-11](#))

The gift(s) God has given to us.

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IV. Worship



A. Worship Belongs to God Alone

Our God is a jealous God and isn't willing to share His worship with any other.

[\(Ex 20:4-5\)](#)

God is worthy to receive worship because He is the creator of all things.

[Rev 4:10-11](#)

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IV. Worship



B. True Worship

God wants our worship to be true. This means that we must be worshiping in truth and worshiping from the heart.

[\(Matt 15:8-9\)](#)

Worship God in Truth

[\(John 4:23-24\)](#)

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IV. Worship



C. Worshiping God with our lives.

Worship should not be isolated to Sundays only.

[\(1 COR 10:31\)](#)

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IV. Worship



The Lord's Supper

The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is one of two ordinances given to the church by Jesus Christ, the other being baptism. The Lord's Supper is an act of remembrance of Christ's death.

In 1 Corinthians 11:23-26

1. The bread is in remembrance of: *Christ's body.*
 2. The cup is in remembrance of: *Christ's blood.*
 3. Every time you partake in Communion you proclaim the Lord's death ([Corinthians 11:26](#)). In light of that truth, what is the warning stated in [1 Corinthians 11:27-30](#)?
Anyone who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

V. Application



- A. Are you a member of the body of Christ:
 - B. Are you a member of a local assembly of Christians?
 - C. What have you learned from this study to improve your worship of God?

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What We Covered



- I. The Church Union
 - II. The Local Church
 - III. Fellowship
 - IV. Worship
 - V. Application
 - VI. Questions?????
 - VII. Quiz 10

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