

# The Church

Text: Matt 16:18

Introduction:

1. Founder Of The Church Matt 16:18

2. Facts Concerning The Church

## A. Must Be Local

Rom 16:1

1 Cor 1:2

1 Cor 16:1,19

2 Cor 8:1

Col 4:16

1 Thess 1:1

1 Pet 5:13

Rev 2:1,8,12,18

Rev 3:1,7

## B. Must Be Visible

Phil 1:27

1 Thess 2:17

1 Thess 3:6

## C. Must Be Organized

The word assemble means organization

Col 1:18 Body is organized

D. Must Be Constituted (Made up of the right components)

Acts 2:41

## 3. Function Of The Church

A. It's Head is Christ Col 1:18, Eph 5:23,24

1. Each church is subject to its head
2. A church without a head is dead

B. It Officers

1. Pastor - Under shepherd, overseer

1 Pet 5:2

Acts 20:28

Eph 4:12-14

Acts 20:17, 28-31

A. The pastor is to be followed

Heb 13:7,17

2. Deacon - Servant

Have no more authority than other members.

C. It Ordinances

1. Baptism

2. Lord's Supper

D. It Commission

Matt 28:19-20

Mark 16:15

Luke 24:47

John 20:21

Acts 1:8

1 Cor 15:58

## The Church and Me

We think about what a church can do in ministering to others, but we also need to think about what each church member can do for his church.

### ***Pray For Your Church***

Ask the Lord to meet each need. Pray for the leaders. Pray that everything will be pleasing to Christ.

### ***Be A Loyal Member***

Be loyal to the leadership and the church. Encourage others to do the same. Don't be a complainer.

### ***Be A Faithful Member***

Attending the church faithfully:

- 1) Is obeying what the Bible teaches
- 2) Identifies one publicly with the Lord and His people
- 3) Provides instruction for living the Christian life
- 4) Helps a Christian to find God's will in a place of service
- 5) Makes one a part of getting the message of salvation to others.

If it were not for local Bible-preaching churches, many people would not hear how to be saved.

### ***Support Your Church***

It is God's plan for each member to be a tither. This means that we are to give ten percent our income to the Lord. We will also want to give offerings above this. I Corinthians 16:2 says, "*Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him, that there be gatherings when I come.*" With a glad heart, each member of the local church should do all he can to make his church all it ought to be.