



Building A Healthy Church
The Purpose Driven Life



What on Earth am I here for?

Session 1 You Matter to God

Session 2 You were planned for God's pleasure (Worship)

Session 3 You were formed for God's Family
(Fellowship)



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God doesn't just want you to know and love Him, He also wants you to know and love His **family**.

“That **family** is the church of the living God (*1 Tim 3:15b* NCV)

“(God’s) unchanging plan has always been to adopt us into His own **family** by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ” (*Eph. 1:5* NLT)

“Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become **children of God**

(*John 1:12* NASB)

WE ARE NOT ALLGOD’S CHILDREN



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What comes to mind when you hear the word "church"?

Definition - The Greek word used in the New Testament for church is "EKKLESIA"

This word is made up from 2 Greek words

- "EK" meaning "out" - "KALEO" meaning "to call"

So "ekklesia" literally means "that which is called out".

The church is made up of all those called out of darkness into light (*Colossians 1:13*).

A redeemed community.

Born and Adopted (*Romans 8:15,23*)



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THE CHURCH - UNIVERSAL & LOCAL

The word "church" is used in two senses in the Bible.

1. UNIVERSAL CHURCH All believers when they become Christians belong to the church universal, (world-wide throughout ages) (e.g. *Ephesians 1:22, 5:23*)

Jesus only used the word "church" twice, in Matthew's gospel. The first time it was the "universal" church.

Matthew 16:18 "I will build My Church..."

2. THE LOCAL CHURCH The second time Jesus used the word "church" was in *Matthew 18:15-17.*



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Two Illustrations to help us

1. THE CHURCH as a SPIRITUAL BUILDING

Ephesians 2: 19-22 1 Peter 2:4-10

2. THE CHURCH as a BODY

Jesus intended His ministry on earth to continue after His ascension. This was to be done through His body on earth, the church, of which He is the Head.

Ephesians 1:22-23 4:12 4:15-16

1 Corinthians 12:12-14, 17



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“... 3000 were added - They devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and to prayer *Acts 2:41-42*

Four Areas of fellowship to consider.

1. Fellowship of Sharing together.

conversation, meals, ideas, interests..experiences (good and bad), support (rejoice and sorrow). Needs Small groups. (*Acts 2:44-47*)

Jesus said “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

John 13:35



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2. Fellowship of Belonging Together

Spectator / Participator

Casual attender / member

Outsider / Insider



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3. Fellowship of SERVING Together.

The more you serve the more you love.

For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do not turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

(*Galatians 5:13* NASB)



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4. Fellowship of SUFFERING Together.

Suffering can bring us together or isolate us

“Share each others troubles and problems, and in this way obey the law of Christ.” *Galatians 6:2* NLT

“If one member suffers all suffer together”

1 Cor. 12:26a ESV



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CONCLUSION

You were formed for God's Family

God doesn't expect you to do it on your own.



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