



Announcements



Our Next 'Pillar' Event:



Teen Camp! June 21st – 24th

Please join us in praying for a life-changing week for our young people!



Weekly Events:



- **Adult Bible Study:** Every Sunday @ 9:30am
Current Study: "Paul: One Who Followed Christ"



- ~~Growing Together Wednesday Service~~ @ 7-8pm
- **Join us on Tuesday (the 18th) instead at 7pm!**
for the West Coast Baptist College Men's Trio



- **VBS Decorations Days**
Every Thursday, 1-3pm in the Connection Building



- **Silver Café** – Lunch provided by Meals-On-Wheels
Every Friday at 11am – all seniors (60+) welcome!



- **The Gathering (Teens):** Every Friday @ 6-8pm



- **Ladies' Bible Study, Ladies' Lunch, Men's Breakfast...**
On Summer Break - Resumes in the Fall



Coming Up Soon:

VBS Volunteer Training Meeting Today (during lunch)
Volunteer t-shirts, job assignments, & group training

6/18 – West Coast Baptist College Men's Trio
This **TUESDAY** at 7pm – join us for some wonderful music!
Replaces our Wednesday service this week

CORE CORE Christianity

15 Essential Doctrines of the Christian Faith,
and how they change our daily life.

Part 12: "The Church"

The Text: Revelation 1:4 – 2:7

1:4 – The _____ of Churches

"Churches" = *ekklēsia* = a gathering or assembly of people together
a 'called out' group

- ❖ The 'Church' is the called out _____ of Christians
Acts 14:23, Acts 16:5, Romans 16:4, Romans 16:5, Romans 16:16,
1 Corinthians 4:17, Galatians 1:2, etc...

"People don't enter a church; the church enters a building."

- Sam Allberry

1:5-6 – The _____ of those Saved by Jesus

- ❖ The 'Church' can also refer to the called out _____ of God
Ephesians 1:22-23 – "And hath put all things under his [Christ's] feet,
and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his
body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all."
1 Corinthians 1:2 – "Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to
them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that
in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord..."

Note: It is perfectly _____ to use the term 'church' to refer to all
Christians everywhere, but overwhelmingly, the term 'church' (*ekklēsia*)
refers to a *local assembly*. When the Bible does refer to ALL Christians, it
more commonly uses terms like 'Body of Christ' or 'the Family of God.'

This is where the word '**catholic**' comes in! It is from the Greek '*katholikos*'
meaning "**on the whole, in general**." It is *not* used in the Bible, but early
Christian writers used this term as a useful way to clarify whether they
were talking about the local church *ekklēsia*, or the *catholic* church
ekklēsia (all those saved by Jesus, all over the world).

When the early Christians used the term "catholic," they were not
referring to any particular church or denomination – but to **all the saved!**

1:7-8 – The Total _____ of Jesus

Matthew 16:16-18 – “And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter (*petros* = small stone), and upon this rock (*petra* = cliff, rocky ground, large stone) I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

➤ **Christ Himself** is the foundation stone of His Church
Acts 4:11, 1 Corinthians 3:11, 1 Peter 2:6-7, etc...

1:9 – Different Churches, but all still _____

1 Corinthians 12:13 – “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

1:10-20 – Jesus and His Churches: _____ for the Light

Philippians 2:15 – “That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; Holding forth the word of life” (see also: **John 1:9**)

Revelation 2 - 3 – Key Lessons from these _____ Churches

- ❖ Churches are _____!
- ❖ Each church has their own local leaders / _____ / elders!
“angel” = angelos = messenger, envoy. (see: **Matthew 11:10**)
Acts 14:23 – “they had ordained them elders in every church...”
- ❖ Every local church has unique _____ and _____
1 Corinthians 3:10 – “According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.”
- ❖ True churches submit to the authority of the _____
Ephesians 2:20 – “And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone”
- ❖ A church can cease to be a _____!
- ❖ All churches are under the same _____ of the Lord!
1 Corinthians 3:5 – “Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man?”

The Core Bible Truth: The ‘Church’ is

all born-again _____ who are

_____ in Assembly and _____ in Family

Acts 2:46-47 – “And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

The Attacks on the Truth

> The _____ church is the only true church

1 Corinthians 1:12-13 – “Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?”

So, what is the ‘true church’?

Church as Universal Family: The ‘true church’ is the one saved by the blood of Jesus! So get saved and be part of Christ’s church! (**Matt 16:18**)

Church as Local Assembly: A ‘true church’ is a gathering of believers who acknowledge the authority of the Bible, preach the biblical Gospel, and follow Jesus as faithfully as possible. Find the best one you can!

The Core Christian Stand for Truth:

“We believe in one God... And in one Lord Jesus Christ... And in the Holy Ghost... In one holy catholic and apostolic Church” – Nicene Creed

The true church is **holy** (*set apart, special – trying to follow Jesus!*), and **catholic** (*composed only of those saved by Jesus Christ*), and built on the **apostolic** writings / the Bible (*if it’s not biblical, it’s not a church!*).

Application:

➔ The Local Church is _____ – but not _____!

“The church is a hospital for sinners. Not a country club for saints”

The Change in Our Daily Life:

We _____ the Local Assembly in _____ Ways

Hebrews 10:25 – “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”