



Certainty Conference 2019

The Church is a BRIDE – WORSHIP

Session 1 | Joe McKaig

Introduction

Definition of a local church:

A church is a group of believers who gather together to worship the Father; study the Scriptures, pray, and fellowship together. From time to time, they observe the ordinances, and they are sent out to make disciples, all under the authority of the head of the church, Jesus Christ, and under the authority of biblically qualified leaders.

The Church - Universal and Local (Universal or Local)

The uniqueness of the local church...

Excerpt from LFF Blog

"Jesus Christ died for the church (Eph 5:25). He gets glory in the church (Eph 3:21). Angelic beings take notice of God's wisdom through the church (Eph 3:10). Only a church has to have biblically qualified leaders (1Tim 3; Titus 1). Only a church is given the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper. Only a church is called Christ's body (Col 1:18). And the New Testament clearly identifies local congregations when it uses the word "church." There are also uses of the word "church" referring to the entire collective body of born-again believers from the resurrection to the rapture, but that represents the minority of applications. The "universal" church, as many refer to it, is not actually a "church" by definition. The word actually means a "called out assembly" and the "universal" church will not be called out and has never assembled until the rapture of the church. In the meantime (the last 2000 years of church history), God has ordained that His work be done in and through local assemblies." Jeff Bartell

Six metaphors of the church – further expresses the uniqueness of the local church

1. The Bride of Christ – Worship
2. The Body of Christ – Fellowship
3. The Family of God – Relationship
4. The Flock of God - Leadership
5. The Building of God – Discipleship
6. The Vineyard of God – Stewardship

I. CALLED TO BE: _____
Ephesians 5:25-32

It's a mystery
Ephesians 3:1-7

1 Corinthians 15:45

No one anticipated the Messiah would be married to a Gentile bride. Even though the pictures of Christ teach this truth, it was hidden from their understanding.

- Adam & his gentile bride Eve (Genesis 2:23-24)
- Isaac & his gentile (Babylonian) bride Rebekah (Genesis 24:67)
- Joseph & his gentile (Egyptian) bride Asenath (Genesis 41:45)
- Moses & his gentile (Ethiopian/Midianite) bride Zipporah (Exodus 2:21)
- Boaz & his gentile (Moabite) bride Ruth (Ruth 4:13)

You in Christ - Ephesians 1:1

Christ in you - Colossians 1:27

What is worship?
Genesis 22:5; Romans 12:1-2; Colossians 3:1-4

The Bride gets a new name and a new identity.

II. CALLED TO DO: _____

A. Exalt Him by _____
Ephesians 5:22-24

B. Exalt Him by _____
Ephesians 5:25-27

2 Corinthians 11:1-4

There Were Three Stages of Weddings in New Testament Times.

1. The engagement

2. The wedding

3. Then there is a wedding feast

C. Exalt Him by _____
2 Corinthians 11:1-4

III. CALLED TO AVOID: _____

ADUL'TERATE, v.t. *L. adultero, from adulter, mixed, or an adulterer; ad and alter, other.*
To corrupt, debase, or make impure by an **admixture of baser materials.**

Generally

Avoid friendship with world – “Going down to Egypt for help”
James 4:4

Specially

Local Church Authority

Jesus Christ is the bridegroom, the church submits to his authority (Colossians 1:18).

He ordains leaders in each local church (Acts 14:23; Acts 20:28).

Local church pastors will give account to God for their leadership (Hebrews 13:7, 17).

Wrong Authority without the local church

Wrong Authority within the local church

III John 1:9-10

Local Church Admiration

The church is the bride of Christ and should be treated with love and respect.