

OCTOBER 6-9, 2019
THE LOCAL CHURCH



PROV

22:20-21

CERTAINTY

CONFERENCE

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CERTAINTY CONFERENCE

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OCTOBER 6-9, 2019
THE LOCAL CHURCH

The Certainty Conference is the annual Bible conference for the Living Faith Fellowship of churches.

Here you will study specific doctrinal subjects that will help you truthfully and biblically answer the myriad of theological questions that exist.

Every year we select a subject to study in depth. Often, these are subjects that are widely misunderstood and falsely represented. With sound biblical exposition this conference will help you know the “certainty of the words of truth”.

This year we will be studying the subject of “The Local Church.”

HAVE NOT I WRITTEN TO THEE EXCELLENT THINGS IN
COUNSELS AND KNOWLEDGE, THAT I MIGHT MAKE
THEE KNOW THE CERTAINTY OF THE WORDS OF
TRUTH; THAT THOU MIGHTEST ANSWER THE WORDS
OF TRUTH TO THEM THAT SEND UNTO THEE?

- PROVERBS 22:20-21 -



MARK TROTTER

ONE BAPTIST CHURCH
DOUGLASVILLE, GA



JOE MCKAIG

DECATUR BAPTIST CHURCH
DECATUR, AL



JAMES DEKOKER

OAKLAND HEIGHTS BAPTIST CHURCH
CARTERSVILLE, GA

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

10:30AM: SUNDAY SERVICE

- BY JEFF BARTELL IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

6:30PM: EVENING SERVICE

- BY MARK TROTTER IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

MONDAY:

9:00AM: SESSION 1

- BY JOE MCKAIG IN THE NEXTGEN CENTER

10:45AM: SESSION 2

- BY JAMES DEKOKER IN THE NEXTGEN CENTER

12:45PM: LIVING FAITH FELLOWSHIP PASTORS' LUNCHEON (BARN)

5:30PM: DINNER (GYM)

6:30PM EVENING SERVICE

- BY MARK TROTTER IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

8:30PM: FELLOWSHIP (BARN)

TUESDAY:

9:00AM: SESSION 3

- BY JOE MCKAIG IN THE NEXTGEN CENTER

10:45AM: SESSION 4

- BY JAMES DEKOKER IN THE NEXTGEN CENTER

5:30PM: DINNER (GYM)

6:30PM EVENING SERVICE

- BY MARK TROTTER IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

8:30PM: FELLOWSHIP (BARN)

WEDNESDAY:

9:00AM: SESSION 5

- BY JAMES DEKOKER IN THE NEXTGEN CENTER

10:45AM: SESSION 6

- BY JOE MCKAIG IN THE NEXTGEN CENTER

5:30PM: DINNER (GYM)

6:30PM EVENING SERVICE

- BY MARK TROTTER IN THE WORSHIP CENTER

8:30PM: FELLOWSHIP (BARN)





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.



Certainty Conference 2019

The Church is a BODY – MEMBERSHIP

Session 2 | James DeKoker

THE STATEMENT OF CHRIST IN JOHN 14:6	THE “REPLACEMENT” OF CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF ACTS	THE FULFILLMENT PRACTICALLY IN OUR LIVES
<p>“I AM the <u>Way</u>”</p> <p>The way to get to where we are to GO... CANAAN... the Promised Land</p>	<p>The <u>church</u> of God.</p> <p>Phil 3:6 Saul persecuted <u>church</u> Gal 1:13 Saul persecuted <u>church</u> Acts 8:3 Saul persecuted <u>church</u> Acts 9:4 Saul persecuted <u>ME</u> Acts 22:1-4 persecuted <u>THIS WAY</u> Acts 9:2; persecuted <u>THIS WAY</u> Acts 18:26; expound <u>THE WAY</u> Acts 19:9, 23 – <u>THE WAY</u> Acts 24:14 – <u>THE WAY</u></p>	<p>The church is our <u>vehicle</u> to get us where God wants us to go.</p> <p>Get outside the vehicle and it’s really windy.</p>
<p>“I AM the <u>truth</u>”</p>	<p>The <u>word</u> of God. Acts 2:42; John 17:17</p>	<p>The Bible is our <u>road map</u> to show us where God wants us to go.</p>
<p>“I AM the <u>life</u>”</p>	<p>The <u>Spirit</u> of God. Acts 2:4; John 6:63</p>	<p>The Spirit is our <u>guide</u> to keep us moving in the right direction.</p>

**credit: Mark Trotter

Ephesians 3:3-6, 9-11

The Jews knew to some extent that the Gentiles would be saved, but they didn’t realize they would be equal heirs... and in ONE BODY.

The Old Testament teaches:

- Gentiles would be blessed by God – Gen 12:3, 22:18, 26:4; 28:14
- Gentiles would bless God – Psalm 72
- Messiah would come to Gentiles – Is 11:10, 49:6, 54:1-3, 60:1-3
- Gentiles would be saved by Messiah – Hos 1:10, Psalm 18:49; Deut 32:43; Is 11:10
- Gentiles would receive the Holy Spirit – Joel 2:28-29

Some may have understood (to varying degrees) some of those, but no Jew anticipated the Jews & Gentiles being one.

Ephesians 1:22-23

Colossians 1:18

I. CALLED TO BE: _____

Ephesians 5:30

Reasons for membership:

A. The principle.

B. The picture.

C. The practicality.

Acts 2:41

Romans 12:5

II. CALLED TO DO: _____

A. United despite our _____ 1 Corinthians 12: 4-13

Galatians 3:28

Ephesians 2:15-16

Colossians 3:15

Colossians 3:12-15

Every church struggles with division:

- The Corinthians were divided and suing each other (1 Cor. 1:10–13; 6:1–8).
- The Galatian saints were “biting and devouring” one another (see Gal. 5:15),
- To the Ephesians, Paul wrote about keeping the unity. (Eph. 4:1–3).
- In Philippi, two women were battling it out in the church (Phil. 4:1–3)
- Paul called the Laodiceans to be knit together in love. (Col 2:1-2)
- The Colossians were commanded to stop quarreling and forgive each other. (Col. 3:13–15).
- The Thessalonians were instructed to be at peace among themselves (1 Thess 5:13).

B. United for our _____ 1 Corinthians 12:14-20

Romans 12 confirms that the local church is comprised of many members, and the different members have different offices (v.4). Those members need to be connected to each other (v.5), and exercise their unique gifts (v.6-8).

Ephesians 4:16

C. United by our _____ 1 Corinthians 12:21-25

D. United for our _____ 1 Corinthians 14

1 Corinthians 14:4, 12, 26

The role of the pastor in the Body: Perfecter of the body

A pastor is a gift to his flock:

- Watches for the souls of the flock (Hebrews 13:17)
- Feeds the flock (1 Peter 5:2)
- Ensample (pattern) for the flock to follow (1 Peter 5:3)
- Knows his sheep and is known by them (John 10:14)
- Seeks & rescues the one lost sheep (Luke 15:4-6)
- Watches out for wolves (Acts 20:29-31)
- Gives his life for the flock (John 10:11)
- Prays for the sick (James 5:14)

Ephesians 4:11-12

E. United in our _____ Colossians 2:16-22
1 Corinthians 11:3

Ephesians 1:22-23

Ephesians 5:23-24

III. CALLED TO AVOID: _____

Splits of the Local Church

When God speaks about the body, He speaks about unity (Ephesians 4:3-6, 16; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13; Romans 12:5; Colossians 3:15). Jesus, in His “high priestly prayer” prays the unity of the disciples – the embryo of the church (John 17:20-23). Church splits are rarely over doctrine but over authority, money, tradition, preference, and feelings.

Consumerism of the Local Church

The selfishness of this world has permeated the church, however the church isn’t to be viewed by what we get from it but how we fit in it.

Abandonment of the Local Church

As you were baptized into the universal body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:13), God sets you as a body member in a local church (1 Corinthians 12:13, 18, 27). Without you the local body is handicapped, but outside the body, you are useless and dying. All that you are – including natural abilities, personality, resources, experiences, opportunities & capacity to develop skills – were all given by God and for His glory. Specifically, He desires you to exercise yourself within the local church body.

Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church. - 1 Corinthians 14:12

The purpose & context of spiritual gifts is the BODY of Christ, the local church. Your gift is not valid outside the body of Christ.

Counterfeits of the Local Church

A local church is clearly & tightly defined. By those who:

- Identify themselves as a church
- Are led by qualified, ordained leaders
- Gather together for preaching, prayer & worship
- Fellowship with each other
- Observe the ordinances of the church
- Carry out the mission of the church

Parachurch fellowship organizations

Consider some attributes of New Testament churches:

- Had church officers (Ac 6:1-7; 13:1; 14:23; 20:17; Php 1:1; Titus 1:5), considered elders a necessity for proper functioning of the church (Titus 1:5) appointing them as soon as possible (Ac 14:23).
- Had stated times of meeting (John 20:19, 26; Ac 20:7; 1 Co 16:2)
- Regulated church decorum (1 Co 14:34) and exercised church discipline (Mt 18:17; Ro 16:17; 1 Co 5:13; 3: Jn 10)
- Raised money for the Lord's work (Ac 11:29; 24:17; 1 Co 16:1-2; 2 Co 8-9; Ro 15:25-28);
- Sent letters of commendation to the other churches (Ac 15:22-29; 18:24-28; Ro 16:1-2; 2 Co 3:1)

“Loose Church” groups

Bible study and fellowship groups do not meet this description of a church.

Most “2 or 3 are gathered” only fulfill 2 or 3 of the requirements.

One that is most pressing is the lack of qualified, ordained leaders. Common 2 or 3 characteristics

- Immaturity - When there is no pastor, there is little if any maturity (because he perfects).
- Apathy – without a bishop, no one is provoked to the Great Commission.
- Heresy – predictably, children are tossed by every wind of doctrine. When there is no shepherd, wolves come in. False teaching comes. The believers do not get fed, led.
- Carnality – without an elder, everyone does what's right in their eyes (Jud. 17:6; 21:25) and no one has the right to judge anyone.
- Apostasy – Sheep go astray (Isaiah 53:6). The shepherd restores and keeps them travelling together (1 Corinthians 1:10; Matthew 12:25).

Should the local church be an organization or an organism? It's a false dichotomy.

That the church is a living organism is unquestionably illustrated in scripture.

That the church is a organized organism is equally illustrated.

Even in the first church at Jerusalem, when there had been little time to organize, a structure already occurs:

- Doctrinal standard (Ac 2:42)
- Fellowship (Ac 2:42)
- United in worship, prayer (Ac 2:42, 46)
- Observed the ordinances of Baptism & the Lord's Supper (Ac 2:41, 42, 46)
- Kept account of membership (Ac 2:14, 41; 4:4)
- Provided help for their own needy (Ac 2:44-45)
- Received offerings (Ac 5:1-2)
- Added deacons to be over the BUSINESS (Ac 6:1-7)



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The Church is a FAMILY – RELATIONSHIP

Session 3 | Joe McKaig

I. CALLED TO BE: _____
John 3:1-3

Ephesians 1:17-20

Ephesians 3:14-15

Ephesians 2:19

“Blood is thicker than water”
Matthew 12:46-50

II. CALLED TO DO: _____

The “One Another Commands” of the New Testament

- **Love**
 - Be kindly affectionate (Rom 12:10; Eph 4:32).
 - Prefer (Rom 12:10; 1 Ti 5:21).
 - Greet with a kiss (Rom 16:16; 1 Co 13:12).
 - Care for (1 Co 12:25).

- Serve (Gal 5:13).
- Bear burdens (Gal 6:2).
- Comfort (1 Th 4:18).
- Have compassion (1 Pe 3:8).
- Be Hospitable (1 Pe 4:9).

How do we measure LOVE in the local church?

- **Unity**

- Don't judge over liberties (Rom 14:13).
- Be likeminded (Rom 15:5).
- Receive (Rom 15:7).
- Don't be puffed up against (1 Co 4:6).
- Don't sue (1 Co 6:7).
- Don't attack (Gal 5:15).
- Don't provoke (Gal 5:26).
- Don't envy (Gal 5:26).
- Forgive (Eph 4:32; Col 3:13).
- Don't lie (Col 3:9).
- Don't speak evil (Ja 4:11).
- Don't grudge (Ja 5:9).
- Confess faults (Ja 5:16).
- Pray for (Ja 5:16).
- Be subject or submit (1 Pe 5:5).

How do we measure UNITY in the local church?

- **Training**

- Edify (Rom 14:19; 1 Th 5:11).
- Admonish (Rom 15:14; Col 3:16).
- Forbear (Eph 4:2; Col 3:13).
- Exhort (Heb 3:13; 10:25).
- Consider to provoke to good works (10:24).

How do we measure TRAINING in the local church?

III. CALLED TO AVOID: _____

Social welfare

We are to meet the needs of the family (I John 3:17-18)

We are to care for orphans and widows (I Timothy 5)

Churches help other churches in times of need. (I Corinthians 16; 2 Corinthians 8)

Parachurch Fellowship

The local church is the place where believers find belonging (I Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 2:19-22)

The local church is the place where believers find encouragement (Romans 12:15; I Corinthians 12:26; Hebrews 10:25)

The local church is the place where believers find accountability (Romans 16:17-18; I Corinthians 5:9-11; II Thessalonians 3:14-15).

Church splits

God prescribes a plan for resolving conflict within the local church (Matthew 18).

Reproduction is to be the result of a healthy process of development not the result of unhealthy division (Genesis 1:11-12).



Certainty Conference 2019

The Church is a FLOCK – LEADERSHIP

Session 4 | James DeKoker

Acts 20:28

1 Peter 5:2

1 Corinthians 9:7

I. CALLED TO BE: _____

A. The Flock is _____ by the Great Shepherd

1 Peter 2:24-25

- Jesus is the _____ Shepherd who accomplishes our justification
John 10:11
- Jesus is the _____ Shepherd who accomplishes our sanctification
Hebrews 13:20
- Jesus is the _____ Shepherd who accomplishes our glorification
1 Peter 5:4

B. The Flock is _____ by PASTORS

- **Pastor** The Greek word is used 18 times; translated 17 times shepherd, 1 time pastor (Eph 4:11)

The name indicates a shepherd's _____.

- **Elder** (Ac 11:30; 14:23; 15; 16:4; 20:17; 21:18; 1 Tim 5; Tu 1:5; Ja 5:14; 1 Pe 5:1-5; 2 Jo 1; 3 Jo 1).
**Notice the interchangeability of elder & pastor in 1 Peter 5:1-4.

The name indicates a spiritual _____.

- **Bishop** (Php 1:1; 1 Tim 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9).
**Notice the interchangeability of elder & bishop in Titus 1:5, 7.

The name indicates a sober _____.

1) The _____ of pastors

1 Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9

2) The _____ of pastors

In every church there are multiple pastors:

- Elders in church at Jerusalem – Acts 11:30; Acts 21:18.
**NOTE - the shift of emphasis from apostles to elders.
- Bishops in church at Philippi – Philippians 1:1
- Elders in church at Ephesus – Acts 20:17; 1 Timothy 5:17-20
- Pastors over them at Thessalonica – 1 Thessalonians 5:12

- Paul ordained elders in every church plant Acts 14:23
- Titus was appointed to ordain elders in every city Titus 1:5

It should be carefully noted that the church is not a dictatorship – as there are plurality of pastors. Nor is the church an oligarchy – as the whole church should be involved.

- Acts 6:3-5 The local congregation of Jerusalem was involved in the selection of deacons which were appointed by the apostles.
- Acts 15:2 reveals that it was the congregation that determined Paul & Barnabas to Jerusalem to confront the teaching of the circumcision.
- 1 Corinthians 16:3 - the congregation approved someone to take the missions gift to Jerusalem (sent by Paul)
- 2 Corinthians 8:19 The local churches' congregations (plural) chose someone to travel with Paul - evidently for visibility on how their missions money was being spent.
- The local church epistles (Romans - Thessalonians) were not addressed to just the pastors but to the congregations, at times with specific speaking to the leadership (e.g. Philippians 1:1).

3) The _____ of Pastors Acts 15:6-21

One additional idea to provide plurality is to ask a mother-church or sister-church pastor to serve as an external elder. Consider Paul's leadership in absentia

- Paul instructs the church at Rome to receive and help Phebe (Romans 16:1-2)
- Paul commands a church to withdraw fellowship with some, commands busybodies to be quiet (2 Thessalonians 3:6-16)
- Paul expels people from the church (1 Timothy 1:20; 1 Corinthians 5:3-5)
- Paul exhorts the church to forgive and comfort the sinner who repented (2 Corinthians 2:6-10)
- In all his epistles, Paul exhorts, admonishes, instructs local churches, two of which he might have ever been present: Rome (Romans 1:13) & Colosse (Colossians 1:5-9; 2:1).
- Paul sends leaders to other churches (Philippians 2:19, 25; Titus 3:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 3:2; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Timothy 1:3-4)

C. The Flock is _____ by DEACONS *Philippians 1:1*

II. CALLED TO DO: _____

A. God calls pastors to _____ the flock *Ephesians 4:11-12*

1 Timothy 3:1

The work of a pastor:

- to rule (1 Timothy 5:17)
- to preach and teach (1 Timothy 5:17)

- to guard against wolves (Acts 20:29-31)
- to pray for the sick (James 5:14)
- to care for the church (1 Peter 5:1-2)
- to know the flock and be known by them (John 10:14)
- to watch for the souls of the flock (Hebrews 13:17)
- to sacrifice for the flock (John 10:10-11)
- to be ensamples for others to follow (1 Peter 5:1-2)
- to set church policy (Acts 15:22)
- to ordain other leaders (1 Tim. 4:14)
- to perfect the saints (Eph 4:12)

The two perfecting ministries of the pastor

- 1) _____
Psalm 23:1-2
1 Peter 5:1-2
Acts 20:28
John 21:16

- 2) _____
Hebrews 13:17
1 Timothy 5:17

Mark 10:42-43

1 Peter 5:2-3
Isaiah 40:11
Psalm 23:1-4
Luke 15:4-7

John 10:11-13

1 Timothy 5:17

The two perfecting tools of the pastor

- 1) **Perfection is accomplished by** _____
2 Timothy 3:16-17
Colossians 1:28-29

- 2) **Perfection is accomplished by** _____
Colossians 4:12

Acts 6:4

B. God calls the flock to _____ their shepherd

- 1) _____ **your pastors**
1 Thessalonians 5:12
John 10:14

2) _____ for your pastors

Consider the following requests for prayers from Paul:

- Colossians 4:2-4 For opportunities to speak God's Word
- Ephesians 6:18-20 For boldness & clarity in speaking
- 2 Thessalonians 3:1 For God's Word to accomplish His will in them and in others
- Romans 15:30-32 To be kept from enemies, to be accepted by the brethren, and to be refreshed

3) _____ your pastors

1 Timothy 5:17-18

4) _____ your pastors

Hebrews 13:17

5) _____ your pastors

1 Thessalonians 5:12-13

A pastor is a gift to his flock:

- Watches for the souls of the flock (Hebrews 13:17)
- Feeds the flock (1 Peter 5:2)
- Ensample (pattern) for the flock to follow (1 Peter 5:3)
- Knows his sheep and is known by them (John 10:14)
- Seeks & rescues the one lost sheep (Luke 15:4-6)
- Prays for the sick (James 5:14)
- Cares for the church (1 Peter 5:1-2)
- Watches out for wolves (Acts 20:29-31)
- Gives his life for the flock (John 10:10-11)

6) _____ your pastors

1 Timothy 5:19

7) Hold your pastors _____

1 Corinthians 4:1-2

1 Timothy 5:19-20

James 3:1

2 Samuel 24:17

III. CALLED TO AVOID: _____

Parachurch Equipping

Parachurch Authority



Certainty Conference 2019

The Church is a BUILDING – DISCIPLESHIP

Session 5 | James DeKoker

1 Corinthians 3:9

I. Called to BE: _____

1 Timothy 3:15

A. Built on the _____ of Jesus

1 Corinthians 3:9, 11

Ephesians 2:20

Isaiah 28:16

Matthew 21:42

Matthew 7:24-25, 27

B. Built as a _____ of God

Ephesians 2:21-22

Every OT use of building (as a noun) refers to the Temple - either at Solomon's time, Ezra's time, or Ezekiel's prophecy (1 Kings 9:1; Ezra 5:4; Ecclesiastes 10:18; Ezekiel 40-42).

Jesus had a body -> He replaced Himself with a body

Jesus is the Son of God -> He replaced Himself with sons of God.

Jesus is the Lamb of God -> He replaced Himself with sheep

Jesus is the Stone of Israel -> He replaced Himself with stones

Jesus was a TEMPLE (John 2:19-21) -> He replaced Himself with a temple - the church

1 Peter 2:5-7

Examples of spiritual sacrifices:

Praise & giving thanks (Hebrews 13:15)

Giving (Galatians 6:6; Philippians 4:14; 1 Timothy 6:18; 4:18)

Faith (Philippians 2:17)

Loving one another (Ephesians 5:1-2)

Offering our bodies to the Lord (Romans 12:1), which is reasonable

C. Built with the _____ of the Spirit

Ephesians 2:21-22

1 Corinthians 12:13

Ephesians 4:11-13

1 Corinthians 11:18-19

II. Called to DO: _____

Ephesians 4:14

2 Timothy 2:1-2

2 Timothy 1:13-14

Titus 1:3

The power of God's Word in discipleship

The word will sanctify them (John 17:17)

The word will cleanse them (Ephesians 5:26)

The word will grow them (1 Peter 2:2)

The word will build them up (Acts 20:32)

A. We are called to build up _____

Ephesians 2:21-22

2 Peter 1:5-7

B. We are called to build up _____

1 Timothy 3:15

Pillar - the testimony of truth.

Philippians 2:16

Ground - the place of truth.

Ground is the place where truth is LOCATED.

Ground is the place where truth is CULTIVATED.

Acts 6:7 And the word of God increased...

Acts 12:24 But the word of God grew and multiplied.

Acts 19:20 So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed.

****The role of the pastor in the building:** _____

1 Corinthians 3:9-10

- Gold
- Silver
- Precious stones
- Wood
- Hay
- Stubble

Ecclesiastes 10:18

III. Called to AVOID: _____

A. Outsourcing _____

Matthew 16:18

2 Promises:

1) Jesus will build His church

2) The gates of hell shall not prevail against it

B. Outsourcing _____

Local Church Identity

Church at Jerusalem (Acts 8:1)

Church at Antioch (Acts 13:1)

Church at Cenchrea (Romans 16:1)

Church at Corinth (1 Corinthians 1:2)

Local church leadership

The local leadership of the church of Jerusalem explicitly appointed their own deacons (Acts 6:5-6) and implicitly ordained their own elders (Acts 11:30)

The church at Antioch has distinct leadership (Ac 13:1).

Local Church discipline

Apostles in Acts 5

Church leaders (with support from Paul) in 1 Cor 5

Local Church missionaries

Missionaries were sent by and reported back to the sending church (Acts 13-14)

While local churches were independent, there were cooperative, edifying relationships between them.

- Conflicts of membership were handled by sending church leaders to church leaders (Acts 15).
- Local church members would write to other church letters asking for counsel (1 Corinthians 1:10-11).
- Paul, removed from churches, wrote letters of doctrine and exhortation to churches, some of which we have no record of him starting (e.g. Colosse).
- Local churches sent teachers to fledgling churches to support the work (Acts 11:19-28)
- Local churches sent relief to existing churches to help the poor. (Acts 11:27-30).



Certainty Conference 2019

The Church is a VINEYARD – STEWARDSHIP

Session 6 | Joe McKaig

I. CALLED TO BE: _____

Matthew 21:33-43

I Corinthians 4:1-2

Steward of...

B. The Gospel of God – I Thessalonians 2:4

C. The Gifts of God -

In the New Testament there are **18 gifts** mentioned specifically. Those gifts can be broken down into four categories...

Revealing Gifts:

1. Apostleship – Ephesians 4:11
2. Prophecy – I Corinthians 12; Romans 12; Ephesians 4
3. The Word of Wisdom – I Corinthians 12
4. The Word of Knowledge – I Corinthians 12

Confirming Gifts:

1. Gifts of healing – I Corinthians 12
2. Working of Miracles – I Corinthians 12
3. Discerning of Spirits – I Corinthians 12
4. Gift of tongues – I Corinthians 12

Speaking Gifts:

1. Evangelism – Ephesians 4
2. Teaching – I Corinthians 12, Romans 12
3. Pastor/Teacher – Ephesians 4
4. Exhortation – Romans 12

Serving Gifts

1. Helps – Romans 12

2. Showing Mercy – Romans 12
3. Giving – Romans 12
4. Ruling, Governments – Romans 12, I Corinthians 12

I Corinthians 12:27-31

D. The Mission of God

Acts 1:8

God has entrusted to us all the resources necessary to accomplish the mission

II. CALLED TO DO: _____

F. An Old Testament Picture – Proverbs 31:16

G. A New Testament Reality

1. Be Fruitful

2. Multiply

3. Fill The Earth

III. CALLED TO AVOID: _____

Proverbs 24:30-34

Parachurch Mission Boards

While they can be useful, mission boards often overstep and take over the authority and accountability of the local church.

Paul and Barnabas were sent under the authority of the local church (Acts 13:1-4)

Paul and Barnabas reported back to their sending church in Antioch of Syria (Acts 14:26-28)

Paul corresponded directly with his supporting churches. (Philippians 4)

Paul represented the local churches that supported him and bore fruit on their behalf (Philippians 4)

Parachurch Evangelistic Organizations

The resources and responsibility of reaching the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ have been entrusted to the local church not parachurch organizations.

