

Sermon: "Why Church?"

Text: Various

People stay away from church for all kinds of reasons. But many people just don't understand the "why" of church. Why does it exist—why does it still matter-- and why should we desire to be an active part of it?

1. The church exists to _____ the _____ of _____.

When Scripture talks about the 'glory' of God it is referring to God's majesty, His excellence, and His infinite worth.

Psalm 19:1 ESV *"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork."*

Romans 11:36 ESV *"For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen."*

Ephesians 3:20-21 NKJV *"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly, abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever, Amen."*

"The church was designed by God as a prism, drawing in His radiance and reflecting the rainbow of his perfections among his people and outward to the world."—John Crotts

1 Tim. 1:17 ESV *"To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."*

2. The church exists to _____ and _____ the _____.

1 Timothy 3:15 NKJV The church is the *"pillar and ground of the truth"*.

Psalm 119:160 ESV *"The sum of your word is truth, and every one of your righteous rules endures forever."*

John 6:63 ESV *"... The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."*

As the church we *have* the truth—we *live* the truth--- we *love* the truth—and we want to *hold up* the truth to a world that desperately needs it.

3. The church exists to _____ the _____ across the _____.

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John 3:17 ESV *“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”*

Matthew 28:19-20 ESV *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”*

Do you know Jesus as your Lord and Savior?

***Has there been a day in your life when you repented
over your sins and trusted in Jesus Christ for salvation?***

All those who trust in Jesus have the promise of forgiveness and the gift of eternal life!

4. The church exists to _____ your _____.

Jesus wants every Christian to keep advancing and growing into greater spiritual health, strength, and maturity.

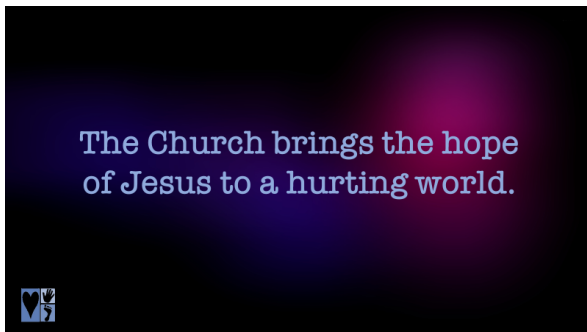
1 Peter 2:2-3 ESV *“Like newborn infants, long for [crave/desire] the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation—if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.”*

2 Peter 3:18 ESV *“But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.”*

The church doesn’t exist to ENTERTAIN you-- but to TRAIN you-- so you can keep growing in your faith and your effectiveness for Jesus Christ.

***Everyone has a next step. What is yours?
Believing on Jesus? Baptism? Membership? Financial Giving? Service?***

Go “all in” for the Church. Make your life count for Jesus!



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