

Local Church



WHAT IS THE CHURCH?

What is the Church? If you were to ask the average person on the street, “What is the church?” they might reply, “It’s a building where Christians meet for worship services.” But we as Christians know that the church is much more than a building – it is a gathering of people. 1 Peter 2:5 says that we are living stones being built into a spiritual building. The Holy Spirit lives inside us. We are literally God’s temple.

There are different types of buildings, and there are different types of building materials. There are foundation stones, and there are windows, and shingles, and many other parts, and in their place they each have a unique function and purpose. Shingles don’t make good windows, and windows don’t make good foundations, but in fulfilling their role they are indispensable. Paul related this in 1 Corinthians 12, using the metaphor of the body, each part with a different, but important role.

What would this building be without all of its valuable parts, and what if you were missing body parts? You would be impaired, less able to function. The same with the Church, which is made up of people. Without everyone doing their part, we are not able to function as we could. And just as an arm or a leg would get weak and atrophy without exercise, so the individual Christian will grow weak without using their gifts.

Appeal

Today, we have the opportunity to contribute to the body of the Church. Each ministry, every volunteer plays an important role in building up our Church.

Prayer

Dear God, thank you that we have the Church, a place to come and meet together, worship you and be inspired as we reach out to others. Amen.

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