

H3

Session 22 Ecclesiology The Church Local

Structure of the Church

Offices

Elders/Shepherd/Overseer/Pastor (1 Tim 3:1-7; Tit 1:5-9; Acts 6:4; 14:23)

Deacons (1 Tim 3:8-13; Acts 6:1-6)

Body and Members

Rom 12:4-8

1 Cor 12:12-31

Polity/Leadership of the Church

Elder Rule?

One-Man-Show?

Congregational Rule?

Denominational Hierarchy?

Task of the Church

What does the church do?/ What must the church do?

Early Examples

Expand [to the ends of the earth!] (Acts 1:8; 2:41,47; 6:7; 8:1 etc.)

Teaching, fellowship, bread, and prayer (Acts 2:42)

Gathering, preaching, teaching, encouraging, giving, sending (Acts 11:19-30)

Pastoral Epistles (1 Timothy 3:14-15)

Protect God's people from false teaching (1 Tim 1:3ff; 4:1-6)

Pray for government leaders (1 Tim 2:1-8)

Instruct women (1 Tim 2:9-15)

Read the Word publicly (1 Tim 4:13)

Exhort and teach (1 Tim 4:13)

Confront sin (1 Tim 5:1-2; 20-21)

Care for widows (1 Tim 5:3ff)

Ordain some for service (1 Tim 5:22,24-25)

Instruct slaves, instruct the rich (1 Tim 6)

Cling to truth and faith and love in Christ (2 Tim 1:13)

Disciple men (2 Tim 2:2)

Rehearse the Gospel (2 Tim 2:8-13)

Teach holy living (2 Tim 2:19-23)

Refute and correct false teaching (2 Tim 2:23-26)

Sniff out wolves (2 Tim 3:1-9; 4:15)

Prepare God's people for persecution (2 Tim 3:10-12)

Continue to teach, reprove, correct, and train with the God-breathed Word (2 Tim 3:14-17)



Preach the Word (2 Tim 4:1-4)
Do the work of evangelism (2 Tim 4:5; see also Eph 4:12)
Appoint qualified leadership (Tit 1:5-9)
Silence rebellious men and false teachers (Tit 1:10-16)
Speak sound doctrine (Tit 2:1)
Instruct men and women (Titus 2:1-8)
Rehearse the Gospel and its effects (Titus 2:9-15; 3:3-8)
Teach God's people to submit to the authorities over them (Tit 3:1)
Encourage godly living (Tit 3:8)
Avoid foolish controversies (Tit 3:9)
Reject factious people (Tit 3:10-11)
Encourage God's people to meet pressing needs (Tit 3:14)

Other Instructions for Local Churches

The One-Another's:

accept one another (Romans 15:7)
admonish one another (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16)
be at peace with one another (1 Thessalonians 5:13)
be devoted to one another in brotherly love (Romans 12:10)
be hospitable to one another (1 Peter 4:9)
be humble toward one another (1 Peter 5:5)
be kind to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
be of the same mind with one-another (Romans 12:16; 15:5)
be subject to one another (Ephesians 5:21)
bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
bear with one another (Colossians 3:13)
build up one another (Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25)
comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
confess your sins to one another (James 5:16)
do not challenge one another (Galatians 5:26)
do not complain against one another (James 5:9)
do not envy one another (Galatians 5:26)
do not judge one another (Romans 14:13)
do not lie to one another (Colossians 3:9)
do not repay one another evil for evil (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
do not speak against one another (James 4:11)
do not sue one another (1 Corinthians 6:7)
encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13; 10:25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
forgive one another (Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13)
greet one another (Romans 16:16; 1 Corinthians 16:20; 2 Corinthians 13:12; 1 Peter 5:14)
fellowship with one another (1 John 1:7; Hebrews 10:25)
love one another (Romans 13:8; 1 Thessalonians 3:12; 4:9; see also 2 Thessalonians 1:3; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 Peter 4:8; 1 John 3:11,23; 4:7,11,12; 2 John 1:5; John 13:34-35; John 15:12,17)
pray for one another (James 5:16)
prefer one another (Romans 12:10; see also Phil 2:3-4)
regard one another as more important than yourselves (Phil 2:3)
Seek good for one another (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
Serve one another (Galatians 5:13; 1 Peter 4:10)



Speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16)
Speak truthfully to one another (Ephesians 4:25)
Stimulate one another to love and good deeds (Hebrews 10:24)
Tolerate one another (Ephesians 4:2)
Wait for one another (1 Corinthians 11:33)
Wash one another's feet (John 13:14)

Matthew 18:15-20
Ordinances (Acts 2:38; 1 Cor 11:23-34)
Exercise of spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12-14)
Ephesians 4:12
Epistles (Ephesians and Corinthians)
Revelation 2-3

Clear Direction and Individual Freedom

Running to Biblical fidelity and away from cultural imitation

Local Church Autonomy/Denomination Hierarchy

How-to-do-church models:

Business model
Revivalist model
Church growth
Emergent church
House church
Homogeneity
Diversity
Urban church
Suburban church
Country church

Where and how will God accomplish his purposes?

Matthew 16:18

What does this mean for missions?



What about parachurch organizations?

What is a parachurch organization? Some examples?

Is there a place for a parachurch organization?

What makes a parachurch organization good? Bad?

How do you define a good church?

Respond to the following statements:

"The church just isn't meeting my needs."

"I am not getting anything out of my church."

"I don't really know anyone at church."

"The worship is boring." Or "I go to (whatever) church, because the music is off the hook."

Do you love the church?

2 Tim 2:10

Acts 20:17-38 (esp. v28)

Resources:

Mark Dever *What Is A Healthy Church?, 9 Marks of a Healthy Church, The Deliberate Church*

John MacArthur *The Body Dynamic*

Peter T. O'Brien *Gospel and Mission in the Writings of Paul*

Robert Saucy *The Church in God's Program*

Alexander Strauch *Biblical Eldership*

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