



# We Are the Church

## Part 1: What is the Church?

### Speaker: BJ Chursinoff

*"And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it."*  
- Matthew 16:18

**Ekklesia (ek-klay-see'-ah):** An assembly of the called-out ones  
Ek = out of, from, by, away from & Kaleo = to call  
See Acts 19:32, 39 for non-church related use of ekklesia

There are really only \_\_\_\_\_ distinct groups of \_\_\_\_\_ in the world today.

#### GROUP 1

Citizens of Heaven, siblings in the family of God, Filled with the Holy Spirit, Spiritually alive, friends with God, those who walk in the truth and according to the truth, those who have spiritual light, salt of the earth and the lights of the world, those who love God and live for God.

#### GROUP 2

Outside of God's kingdom, spiritual orphans outside of the family of God, who do not have the Holy Spirit living inside them, spiritually dead, enemies of God, unforgiven, trespassers, lawbreakers, who believe the lie and live according to it, who walk in darkness, who follow the prince of the power of the air.

Only \_\_\_\_\_ people have ever started off their life inside Group 1.

*Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, in this way death spread to all people, because all sinned.* - Romans 5:12

Isaiah 53:4-8 describes what Jesus did to make a way for people to be called out of Group 2 and into Group 1

*For God loved the world in this way: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish (in Group 2) but have eternal life (in Group 1).* - John 3:16

*You believe that God is one. Good! Even the demons believe - and they shudder.* - James 2:19

#### 4 aspects of a belief that will mark a "called-out" one:

Confession (Luke 18:10-14), Repentance (Mark 1:15), Exclusive Belief (John 14:6), Surrender (Matthew 16:24-25)

*That is why I sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, to remind you of my ways in Christ, as I teach them everywhere in every church.* - 1 Corinthians 4:17

**A definition of the local church:** (1) a group of believers (2) who have been baptized (3) and who meet regularly (4) to worship God through Jesus Christ, (5) to be exhorted from the Word of God, (6) and to celebrate the Lord's Supper, (7) under the guidance of duly appointed leaders.

Jesus' Church is God's \_\_\_\_\_ on earth.

See: 1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 2:19-22

*Jesus answered, "If anyone loves me, he will keep my word. My Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."* - John 14:23

Jesus' Church is Jesus' \_\_\_\_\_.

See: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14;27, Colossians 1:24

Jesus' Church is God's \_\_\_\_\_.

*Jesus replied, "Truly I tell you, unless someone is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."* - John 3:3

*He predestined us to be adopted as sons through Jesus Christ for himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.* - Ephesians 1:5

Jesus' Church is His \_\_\_\_\_.

See: Ephesians 5:22-32

## “One Another” in the New Testament

The phrase "one another" occurs 100 times in the New Testament. Approximately 59 of those occurrences are specific commands teaching us how (and how not) to relate to one another. Obedience to those commands is imperative. It forms the basis for all true Christian community and has a direct impact on our witness to the world.

- *Love one another* (John 13:34 - This command occurs at least 16 times)
- *Be devoted to one another* (Romans 12:10)
- *Honor one another above yourselves* (Romans 12:10)
- *Live in harmony with one another* (Romans 12:16)
- *Build up one another* (Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- *Be likeminded towards one another* (Romans 15:5)
- *Accept one another* (Romans 15:7)
- *Admonish one another* (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16)
- *Greet one another* (Romans 16:16)
- *Care for one another* (1 Corinthians 12:25)
- *Serve one another* (Galatians 5:13)
- *Bear one another's burdens* (Galatians 6:2)
- *Forgive one another* (Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:13)
- *Be patient with one another* (Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13)
- *Be kind and compassionate to one another* (Ephesians 4:32)
- *Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs* (Ephesians 5:19)

- *Submit to one another* (Ephesians 5:21, 1 Peter 5:5)
- *Consider others better than yourselves* (Philippians 2:3)
- *Look to the interests of one another* (Philippians 2:4)
- *Bear with one another* (Colossians 3:13)
- *Teach one another* (Colossians 3:16)
- *Comfort one another* (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
- *Encourage one another* (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
- *Exhort one another* (Hebrews 3:13)
- *Stir up [provoke, stimulate] one another to love and good works* (Hebrews 10:24)
- *Show hospitality to one another* (1 Peter 4:9)
- *Employ the gifts that God has given us for the benefit of one another* (1 Peter 4:10)
- *Clothe yourselves with humility towards one another* (1 Peter 5:5)
- *Pray for one another* (James 5:16)
- *Confess your faults to one another* (James 5:16)
- *Do not lie to one another* (Colossians 3:9)
- *Stop passing judgment on one another* (Romans 14:13)
- *If you keep on biting and devouring each other...you'll be destroyed by each other* (Galatians 5:15)
- *Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other* (Galatians 5:26)
- *Do not slander one another* (James 4:11)
- *Don't grumble against each other* (James 5:9)

We do all these things because we are in a real sense “members of one another” (Romans 12:5; Ephesians 4:25).