

The church – Why this study?

- The church is God's eternal purpose accomplished in Jesus Christ
- Jesus purchased the church with His own blood
- How important is the church to God?
- Then how important should the church be to us?

The church – Why this study?

- Because of the religious division in the world
 - Seen in the world
 - Seen in Moscow, Idaho
 - What does God think of the religious division?
 - What should we think of the religious division?

The church – Why this study?

- Because the word “church” means different things to different people
 - Consider dictionary definitions
 - But what does the Bible say?

The church – Why this study?

- Because of the divisions that come from within
 - What does God think about these divisions?
 - What should be our attitude toward these divisions?

The church – Why this study?

- Because of the pressures that continue upon the church
 - Post-modernism
 - Immorality
 - Social gospel

The church – Why this study?

- Because of the pressures that continue upon the church
 - Entertainment
 - Expanded mission
 - Attacks upon the local church
 - "The only 'functional unit' that the Lord has is the individual! The individual is God's smallest, God's largest, and God's only 'functioning unit'" (Charles Holt, The Examiner, Vol. 1)
 - What is our responsibility regarding these things?

The church – Why this study?

- Because we have responsibilities as members of the church that belongs to Christ
 - 1 Timothy 3:15
 - Titus 1:5
 - 2 Thessalonians 2:15
 - 1 Peter 4:11
 - 2 Timothy 1:13; 2:2, 15; 4:1-5
 - Ephesians 4:1-16
 - Romans 12:3-19; 1 Corinthians 12

The church – Why this study?

- Because we have responsibilities as members of the church that belongs to Christ
 - 1 Corinthians 5
 - Romans 16:17-18
 - 1 Timothy 1:3
 - Revelation 2:5, 10, 16; 3:3, 11, 19-22
 - What must we do to
 - Be the people we are to be in order to be found pleasing to the Lord
 - Defend the truth so that this church will not come under the Lord's condemnation

A study of the church

- Define the word and see how it is used in the New Testament
- The nature of and portraits of the church
- What the church is not
- The church in prophecy and its origin/beginning
- The authority followed by the church
- The church's name

A study of the church

- The church's mission or purpose
- The work of the local church
- The organization of the church
- The worship of the church
- Discipline in the church
- Unity in the church
- The sufficiency of the church