

# 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

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  - 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



# Ekklesia: Translated “church”

- (Origin of the English word “church”:
  - Teutonic spelling of the Greek word “kuriakos”
    - Kuriakos = “of or belonging to the Lord”)
- The English word “church” used as the translation of the Greek word “ekklesia” (Strong’s #1577)
  - Ek = “out of”
  - Klesia = “a calling”
  - Thus, ekklesia is “the called out”

# Ekklesia - History

- Used in classical Greek <400BC to describe gathering or assembly of people
- Used in the Septuagint – Greek translation of the Old Testament – to translate Hebrew word “qahal”
  - KJV uses English word “congregation”
- In New Testament days...
  - “the called out”
  - “called ones”



# Ekklesia – Translated in NT

- Translated “church” approximately 114 times in NT
- Translated assembly 3 times
  - Acts 19:32, 39, 41

# Ekklesia: NT uses of the word

- Civic assembly
  - Acts 19:39
- Mob
  - Acts 19:32, 41
- Jewish congregation
  - Acts 7:38
  - Hebrews 2:12 (Psalm 22:22)
- Mostly: the spiritual body of Christians called out of darkness and into the service of Christ



# A History of the Calling

- Prophecy
  - Amos 9:11-12
  - Hosea 2:23...Romans 9:25-26
  - Joel 2:32
- Preparation
  - Luke 6:12-19
  - Matthew 10:7
  - Matthew 11:28-30
- Commission
  - Mark 16:15
  - Matthew 28:19
- Beginnings
  - Acts 2:41, 47

# The Church – the called out

- Called in one body
  - Colossians 3:15
- The church: the called out body of disciples
  - Men and women who are called Christians
  - Acts 11:26



# The Church – the called out

- What type of calling?
  - A holy calling
    - 2 Timothy 1:9
    - 1 Peter 1:15
  - A heavenly calling
    - Hebrews 3:1
- Called by whom
  - By God in Jesus Christ; thus, a divine calling
    - 1 Peter 5:10
- Called by what means?
  - By the gospel
    - 2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

# The church: Those Who Answer the Call

- Called out of darkness
  - 1 Peter 2:9, 10
- Called into the fellowship of His Son
  - 1 Corinthians 1:9
- Called to be children of God
  - Romans 9:25-26
- Called to be saints
  - 1 Corinthians 1:2
  - “Saint”: Sanctified, holy = set apart
    - Separated: Set apart from....
    - Consecrated: Set apart unto....
- Delivered, Translated
  - Colossians 1:13
- Called to a new and living hope
  - Ephesians 1:18; 4:4