

## The Lord Jesus, Me and The Local Church

The Lord Jesus determines my obligations to a local church

## Be Careful of Common Misconceptions About The Word Church

1. Building
2. Denomination or group of denominations
3. Worship service
4. Social community

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## Introduction

- The New Testament teaches that when we become a Christian, Jesus adds us to His one body of saved people, His one church
- As our Lord, Jesus commands us on how we should behave at all times including worshipping and working with a local church
- Failure to learn and do our part in a local church is displeasing to the Lord

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## Introduction

- Willingly learning and doing these things honors the Lord and edifies others by the Word
- A local church is an assembly of Christians worshipping and working in a given location

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## Jesus Built His One Universal Church, His Saved Body of People

Mat 16:16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Mat 16:17 And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven.

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## Jesus Built His One Universal Church, His Saved Body of People

Mat 16:18 "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

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## Jesus Built His One Universal Church, His Saved Body of People

Eph 5:23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.

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## Only Jesus Determines How We Are Saved, Added To His One Church

Act 2:38 Peter *said* to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Act 2:41 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.

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## Only Jesus Determines How We Are Saved, Added To His One Church

1Co 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

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## Only Jesus Determines How Christians Worship and Work As A Local Church

Act 2:42 They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

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## Only Jesus Determines How Christians Worship and Work As A Local Church

Rom 16:16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the churches of Christ greet you.

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## Only Jesus Determines How Christians Worship and Work As A Local Church

Php 1:1 Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons:

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## Only Jesus Determines How Christians Worship and Work As A Local Church

1Pe 5:2 shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to *the will of God*; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness;

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## I Must Seek Out and Join Myself To A Local Church

Act 9:26 When he came to Jerusalem, he was trying to associate with the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.

Act 9:27 But Barnabas took hold of him and brought him to the apostles and described to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had talked to him, and how at Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

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## I Must Seek Out and Join Myself To A Local Church

Act 9:28 And he was with them, moving about freely in Jerusalem, speaking out boldly in the name of the Lord.

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## I Must Assemble To Worship God and Stimulate Others To Love and Good Deeds

Heb 10:23 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;

Heb 10:24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds,

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.<sup>16</sup>

## Loving One Another Provides A Proof To The World We Are Jesus' Disciples

Joh 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another.

Joh 13:35 "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

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## I Must Reverently and Orderly Worship To Honor God and Edify Others

Heb 12:28 Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe;

1Co 14:40 But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.

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## I Must Reverently and Orderly Worship To Honor God and Edify Others

1Co 14:26 What is *the outcome* then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Mat 28:20 teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

Act 20:7 On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul *began* talking to them, intending to leave the next day, and he prolonged his message until midnight.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Eph 4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Eph 4:13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ.

Eph 4:14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Eph 4:15 but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ,

Eph 4:16 from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

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## Our Unity In Faith Encourages The World To Believe In Jesus

Joh 17:20 "I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word;

Joh 17:21 that they may all be one; even as You, Father, *are* in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Heb 5:12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you have need again for someone to teach you the elementary principles of the oracles of God, and you have come to need milk and not solid food.

Heb 5:13 For everyone who partakes *only* of milk is not accustomed to the word of righteousness, for he is an infant.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Heb 5:14 But solid food is for the mature, who because of practice have their senses trained to discern good and evil.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Rom 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.

Rom 12:4 For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function,

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Rom 12:5 so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Rom 12:6 Since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, *each of us is to exercise them accordingly*: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith;

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Rom 12:7 if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching;

Rom 12:8 or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

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## The Lord Jesus, Me and The Local Church

1. Jesus built His one universal church, His saved body of people
2. Only Jesus determines how Christians worship and work as a local church
3. Some of my local church obligations

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

1Th 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

Gal 6:1 Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

Gal 6:2 Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

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## I Must Supply My Part In Learning Teaching, and Applying God's Word

1Co 12:26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if *one* member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

Heb 13:3 Remember the prisoners, as though in prison with them, *and* those who are ill-treated, since you yourselves also are in the body.

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## I Must Reverently and Clearly Pray To God and Edify Others

1Co 14:15 What is *the outcome* then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.

1Co 14:16 Otherwise if you bless in the spirit *only*, how will the one who fills the place of the ungifted say the "Amen" at your giving of thanks, since he does not know what you are saying?

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## I Must Reverently and Clearly Pray To God and Edify Others

1Co 14:17 For you are giving thanks well enough, but the other person is not edified.

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## I Must Remember Jesus In His Supper Sharing His Body and Blood With Others

1Co 11:23 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;

1Co 11:24 and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

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I Must Remember Jesus In His Supper  
Sharing His Body and Blood With Others

1Co 11:25 In the same way *He took* the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me."

1Co 11:26 For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

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I Must Remember Jesus In His Supper  
Sharing His Body and Blood With Others

1Co 10:16 Is not the cup of blessing which we bless a sharing in the blood of Christ? Is not the bread which we break a sharing in the body of Christ?

1Co 10:17 Since there is one bread, we who are many are one body; for we all partake of the one bread.

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I Must Sing Thankfully To God and  
Teach and Admonish Others

Col 3:16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms *and* hymns *and* spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

Eph 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord;

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I Must Give Financially Sacrificing To  
God Sharing With Others In His Work

1Co 16:1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.

1Co 16:2 On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.

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I Must Give Financially Sacrificing To  
God Sharing With Others In His Work

2Co 8:3 For I testify that according to their ability, and beyond their ability, *they gave* of their own accord,

2Co 8:4 begging us with much urging for the favor of participation in the support of the saints,

2Co 8:5 and *this*, not as we had expected, but they first gave themselves to the Lord and to us by the will of God.

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I Must Give Financially Sacrificing To  
God Sharing With Others In His Work

2Co 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich.

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## I Must Give Financially Sacrificing To God Sharing With Others In His Work

2Co 9:6 Now this *I say*, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.

2Co 9:7 Each one *must do* just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

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## I Must Give Financially Sacrificing To God Sharing With Others In His Work

Php 4:17 Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.

Php 4:18 But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God.

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## I Must Seek To Be Pure and Holy Before God and Encourage Others To Do So

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her,

Eph 5:26 so that He might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word,

Eph 5:27 that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless.

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## I Must Seek To Be Pure and Holy Before God and Encourage Others To Do So

1Co 5:1 It is actually reported that there is immorality among you, and immorality of such a kind as does not exist even among the Gentiles, that someone has his father's wife.

1Co 5:2 You have become arrogant and have not mourned instead, so that the one who had done this deed would be removed from your midst.

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## I Must Seek To Be Pure and Holy Before God and Encourage Others To Do So

1Co 5:3 For I, on my part, though absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged him who has so committed this, as though I were present.

1Co 5:4 In the name of our Lord Jesus, when you are assembled, and I with you in spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus,

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1Co 5:5 *I have decided* to deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of his flesh, so that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

1Co 5:6 Your boasting is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump *of dough*?

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I Must Seek To Be Pure and Holy Before  
God and Encourage Others To Do So

2Th 3:6 Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from every brother who leads an unruly life and not according to the tradition which you received from us.

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I Must Seek To Be Pure and Holy Before  
God and Encourage Others To Do So

2Th 3:14 If anyone does not obey our instruction in this letter, take special note of that person and do not associate with him, so that he will be put to shame.

2Th 3:15 Yet do not regard him as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother.

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When Brethren Repent and Confess Sins, I  
Must Pray For Them and Forgive Them

Act 8:22 "Therefore repent of this wickedness of yours, and pray the Lord that, if possible, the intention of your heart may be forgiven you.

1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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When Brethren Repent and Confess Sins, I  
Must Pray For Them and Forgive Them

Eph 4:31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Eph 4:32 Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

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I Must Do My Part To Personally  
Spread The Gospel To The Lost

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

Mat 28:19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

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I Must Do My Part To Personally  
Spread The Gospel To The Lost

1Th 1:8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you, not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith toward God has gone forth, so that we have no need to say anything.

Act 8:4 Therefore, those who had been scattered went about preaching the word.

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1. Jesus built His one universal church, His saved body of people
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## The Lord Jesus, Me and The Local Church

1. If all were as committed as I am, how strong would this local church be?
2. If this local church did not exist, how would my life be changed?
3. If each member of this local church were as active as me, how long would this local church survive?