

Ecclesiology 101: How Does the Church Do Its Work?

Ecclesiology 101a: Jesus Promises the Church

Ecclesiology 101b: Jesus Begins the Church

Ecclesiology 101c: What IS the Church?

Ecclesiology 101d: What Does the Church Do? (Matt 28:18-20)

The Responsibility of the Church: What Does an ASSEMBLY Do?

1. Proclaim the Good News of Salvation to Unbelievers (2 Cor 5:20-21)
2. Baptize those that Believe the Good News of Salvation (Acts 8:12)
3. Teach those that Believe to Observe What Jesus Taught (Titus 2:11-14)

The Identity of the Disciple: What Does a FOLLOWER Do?

1. Be Living by the Word of God (John 8:30-32)
2. Be Bearing the Fruit of God (John 15:8)
3. Be Loving the People of God (John 13:34-35)
4. Be Looking for the Return of God (1 John 3:2-3)
5. Be Shining the Light of God (Matt 5:16)
6. Be Denying the Opposite of God (Col 3:1-5)

Ecclesiology 101: How Does the Church Do Its Work?

1. God Appoints _____ (Eph 4:11)

“And He Himself gave some [to be] apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,”

Men appointed, gifted, & assigned by God:

- Apostles – chosen by Jesus to help begin the church (Eph 2:20)
- Prophets – received direct revelation from God to help begin the church (Eph 2:20; 1 Cor 13:8)
- Evangelists – share the Gospel to unbelievers; train believers to share
- Pastors & Teachers

2. God Summarizes the _____ (Eph 4:12)

“for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,”

a. _____ – Believers are _____

Towards Saint Training – teaching believers to know and to do

b. _____ – To do ministry _____ (diaconias ergon)

For Service Work – working acts of serving others – not entertainment or self-centeredness

c. _____ Up – Which _____ the Body

For Body Building – building the body – God wants us to be body-focused, not self-focused. What would build or strengthen the body?

3. God Describes the _____ (Eph 4:13-16)

a. _____ – **every** believer in the body is in scope
“that we might ALL attain...”

b. _____ : **oneness**: doing things as one; not individualism
“unto the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God”

- Shared **belief** and shared **experiences**

c. _____ : **positively stated**: to grow up fully as Christ
“to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;”

- Everyone, as a single, fully-mature body (every part, be a part)
- God defines what is “grown up”
- God wants this “man” to be measured in comparison to Christ
- God wants this “man” to be as mature as Christ! (1 John 2:6)

d. _____ : **negatively stated**: not infants
“that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,”

- Not infants – ignorant, immature, and easily led astray
- Not tossed by whims of external circumstance
- Not carried by winds of deceptive teaching (falsehood, fads)

e. _____ : **ongoing instruction**: speaking the truth in love
“but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head-Christ—“

- Speaking the truth (“truthing”) by A, P, E, P&T; by one another
- Speaking in love (God’s unconditional care)
- Growing up in Him in all areas – Christ is our focus & our measure

f. _____ : **full participation**: each serving in one’s place
“from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share,”

- Whole body – this involves everyone
- Fit together – proper place, proper connection
- Knit together – glued together
- By each joint’s supply – your serving is the glue!
- Effective working (energy, in-working) (God’s enablement – 1:9; 3:7; Col 1:9; 2:12)
- Every part has its share, learns its share, and does its share of serving (Rom 12, 1 Cor 12)

g. _____ : **impact**: building up and increasing in size
“causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.”

- God uses the body [us] to grow the body
- God uses the body [us] us to build the building