

NOTES:



May 20, 22-23, 2010
MESSA GE NOTES
The End...The Beginning

Part 8: Why Am I Part of a Church Family?

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Jeremiah 31:33

I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

The church is an extension of who _____ is.

Five Potential Relationships to Leadership

1. **Rebellious:** Korah, Dathan, and Abiram in the wilderness (Book of Numbers)
2. **Independent:** "...everyone did what was right in his own eyes." (Book of Judges - Judges 21:25)
3. **Fearful:** when leadership is overbearing (many evil kings in the Books of Kings and Chronicles)
4. **Religious:** when leadership lacks intimacy with Jesus (Pharisees and Sadducees – Four Gospels)
5. **Envisioned and empowered:** when leadership is godly

Ephesians 5:25b-27 (NIV)

...Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, and to present her to Himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Acts 2:42 (NASB)

They were continually devoting themselves to the [1] **apostles' teaching** and to [2] **fellowship**, to the [3] **breaking of bread** and to [4] **prayer**.

Why Do We Need the Church?

1. **Teaching:** We need to receive _____ from godly leaders.

📖 **didache** (Greek): the assembling of Christians for the purpose of receiving instruction.

2. **Fellowship:** We need to be relationally _____ to Christ's body.

📖 **koinonia** (Greek): a community, a gift jointly contributed, a collection, a contribution, as exhibiting an embodiment and proof of fellowship

Hebrews 10:24-25 (Amplified Bible)

And let us consider and give attentive, continuous care to watching over one another, studying how we may stir up (stimulate and incite) to love and helpful deeds and noble activities,

Not forsaking or neglecting to assemble together [as believers], as is the habit of some people, but admonishing (warning, urging, and encouraging) one another, and all the more faithfully as you see the day approaching.

3. **Breaking Bread:** We need to _____ the Lord's Supper, as well as _____ connect over meals together.
4. **Prayer:** We need to _____ together in prayer with other member's of Christ's body.

Hebrews 13:17 (NIV)

Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.

2Corinthians 1:24 (NIV)

Not that we lord it over your faith, but we work with you for your joy, because it is by faith you stand firm.

Servant leadership brings joy.

Ephesians 3:6 (NKJV)

We are "...fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel..."

The word "partakers" in Ephesians 3:6 is not used in any other verse in the New Testament and literally means "equal partners and equal sharers."

True community exists only in a group of people committed above all else to relating well—who admit they have very little idea how to go about it. They therefore pray. And they pray a lot. The effect is to pay less attention to plans for good relating and more attention to the one Person who can empower them to relate as He does. They feel alive in the middle of conflict, not with anger but with anticipation.

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