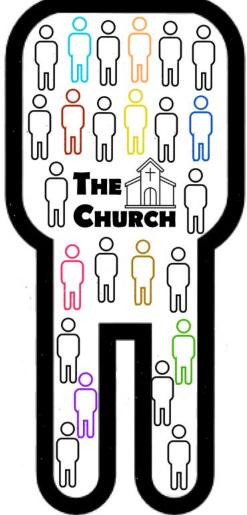


Fitting into The Body of Christ





#### A Study of The Local New Testament Church, How and Where You Fit In

#### **Ordering Our Study**

#### The body provides:

- 1. Provision & Protection Defining the local church
- **2. Function** Your place in the local church
- 3. Relation Your relationship with God and others
- 4. Identification Who God says you are
- **5. Mission and Vision** What God calls us to do
- 6. Interaction Touching the lives of others with the word of God.



### What is the church?

- A. The church is our <u>lifeline</u> and <u>covering</u>.
- B. The word church means "called out assembly".

## Who is in <u>charge</u> of the church?

- A. Jesus is the **head** of the church. **Ephesians 1:22-23, Ephesians 4:15-16**
- B. We are the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:15-16, 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
- C. The church is likened to a **building**. 1 Peter 2:5, Ephesians 2:18-22, 1 Corinthians 3:9-13
- D. Jesus is the **founder** and **builder** of the church. **Matthew 16:18**, **1 Corinthians 3:9**
- E. We have an important <u>role</u> in building the church. *Ephesians 4:11-16*

# What is the <u>purpose</u> of the church?

- A. The purpose of the church is to disciple of all nations. *Matthew 28:18-20, John 17:4, 2 Timothy 2:2*
- B. <u>Preach</u> the gospel *Mark 16:15, Romans 1:16-17, 1 Thessalonians 2:4, Ephesians 4:11-12, Acts 2:42, 1 Thessalonians 5:11, Ephesians 4:16*

Why is it important for me to be joined to a local New Testament Church?

A. The local New Testament church is an important <u>conduit</u> of the believer's provision. *1 Peter 5:1-2, 1 Corinthians* 12:14-20, 1 Peter 4:10, 1 John 1:3



## What is the <u>role</u> of the pastor in the church? Ephesians 4:4-16

- A. The pastor is charged to <u>feed</u> the flock of God. 1 Peter 5:1-4, Genesis 31:38-41, John 10:11-14, Jeremiah 3:15
- B. Pastors hold the primary office in church governance. *Ephesians 4:11, 1 Timothy 5:1, Acts 6:3-4*

### How important is each individual member? 1 Corinthians 12:27

- A. The body of Christ is composed of individuals who have **been born** again. **John 3:5-7**
- B. Why is it important for me to <u>attend</u> church? Hebrews 10:24-25, Romans 12:5, Romans 12:10, 1 Corinthians 12:20-27

## Will I face <u>obstacles</u> in attending church? *Ephesians* 6:12

- A. Our <u>flesh</u>. *Romans 7:18-23, Galatians* 5:16-18, John 4:24
- B. Others. Romans 12:19-21, 1 Peter 4:7-8
- C. The <u>devil</u>. 1 Peter 4:12-13
- D. Frequency and consistency. Acts 5:42, Acts 20:20

#### What is the body of Christ?

- A. The body of Christ is defined in scripture as the "church". Colossians 1:24, Romans 12:5
- B. The church is the **pillar** and **ground** of the truth. **1 Timothy 3:14-15**
- C. Fellowship is based on our relationship around the **word** of God.
- D. Ways you can **find** fellowship at HBF.
- E. Defining "body life".

### Questions?

- 1. Are you saved?
- 2. Are you sharing the gospel and your testimony?
- 3. Are you obedient in believer's baptism?
- 4. Are you following Christ as a disciple, doing the first things like attending worship and fellowship with saints?
- 5. Are you faithful in church attendance?
- 6. Are you faithful in observing the Lord's Supper?
- 7. Are you seeing ways to serve others through the body of Christ?

