

What is a Church Member?

Part 1: Adopted into the Family

Pastor JD Winters – Sunday, June 29, 2025

What is the church (universal)? What is a church (local)?

Who is part of the church? What is a Christian?

Does a Christian have to be a church member?

Questions for Further Discussion:

(Great for Life Groups, family devotionals, or with a friend)

1. What does it mean that our faith reconciles us to God and also to the people of God? What does it mean that a believer is adopted into God's family? Why is that significant?
2. What is the difference between the universal church (which all believers are part of) and the local church? Can you be part of one and not the other? Why or why not?
3. Why is membership in a local congregation important? How does it reflect your commitment to Christ? List some ways that being in a local church family affects Christian maturity.
4. As we prepare for the rest of this series, make two lists. First, list all the ways that a local church is responsible to and for their members. Second, list all the ways that a member is responsible to and for their church. Then compare those to some of the things we'll discuss in the coming weeks.