

Spiritual Family & Church Discipline

7

I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Matthew 16:18

SECTION 1

The Victorious Church

Peter preached the inaugural sermon of the New Testament church. He told the people to repent, to be baptized and to receive the Holy Spirit. All who responded were then added to the local body of the believers – the church. Everyone who is saved, baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit today should also be added to a local church. Just as God sovereignly determines our parents and other family members, he also sovereignly chooses which spiritual family we are born into. The church is the only legitimate setting for walking out the Christian faith. No long-term “lone ranger” can be a true disciple of Christ. All who truly desire to follow Christ must find their place in a church family.

1. What did Jesus say about his victorious church? Matthew 16:18

2. Who is the Rock? 1 Corinthians 10:4

3. Describe the ultimate destiny of the church. Ephesians 5:26,27

4. What were the first church members devoted to? Acts 2:42

5. Briefly describe early church life. Acts 2:43-47

v.43 _____

v.44 _____

v.45 _____

v.46 _____

v.47 _____

6. Comment on the generosity of the early church. Acts 4:32-37

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

SECTION 2

The Body of Christ

1. What does Paul call the people of God? 1 Corinthians 12:27

2. What does Paul say about the importance of each part of the Body of Christ?
1 Corinthians 12:14-20

3. Who decides where each part of the body should function? 1 Corinthians 12:18

4. What does Paul say to those who think they do not need the rest of the Body?
1 Corinthians 12:21

5. What about the parts that seem to be weaker? 1 Corinthians 12:22-24

6. How should the parts of the body treat each other? 1 Corinthians 12:25,26

7. List the seven “ones” mentioned in Ephesians 4:4-6

8. What did Jesus ask for in prayer regarding the unity of his disciples? John 17:20-21

9. What does the Bible call someone who stirs up dissension? Proverbs 16:28

10. Proverbs lists seven things that are an abomination to the Lord. What is the seventh? Proverbs 6:16-19

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

SECTION 3

Church Leadership

1. What offices of authority and leadership did God place in the church? Ephesians 4:11

2. What is the purpose of this “five-fold” ministry? Ephesians 4:12,13

3. How long will these gifts operate in the Church? Ephesians 4:13

4. What is the result of being in a church where these five ministries are operating?
Ephesians 4:14

5. How is the body of Christ joined and held together? Ephesians 4:16

Read Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-7

6. Why was Titus left in Crete?

7. Were the local church elders appointed or elected?

8. Describe the qualifications for eldership.

9. What do these verses teach about an elder's marriage, children and home life?

10. What was Peter's exhortation to the elders? 1 Peter 5:1-4

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

SECTION 4

Church Discipline

1. What are some of the responsibilities of pastors, elders and spiritual leaders?

Acts 20:28 _____

Acts 6:24 _____

John 21:15-17 _____

Ezekiel 33:1-9 _____

Ezekiel 34:2-5 _____

2. How should church members relate to their pastors, elders and spiritual leaders?

Hebrews 13:7 _____

Hebrews 13:17 _____

1 Thessalonians 5:12,13 _____

1 Thessalonians 5:25 _____

1 Timothy 5:17,18 _____

3. Who is the head of the church? Ephesians 4:15

4. What is the foundation of the church? 1 Corinthians 3:10,11

5. What should you do if you know your brother has something against you?

Matthew 5:23,24

6. What three steps should be taken to deal with sin in the church? Matthew 18:15-17

v.15 _____

v.16 _____

v.17 _____

7. What should happen to the church member who is consistently wicked and immoral?

1 Corinthians 5:9-13

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?

Holy Communion

1. What were the early disciples devoted to? Acts 2:42

Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-32

2. What are we guilty of if we receive communion in an unworthy manner?
1 Corinthians 11:27

3. What should we do before we receive communion? 1 Corinthians 11:28

4. What happens to us if we continue to receive communion and do not turn from sin?
1 Corinthians 11:29

5. What can happen as a result of this? 1 Corinthians 11:30

6. How can we avoid being judged? 1 Corinthians 11:31

7. When God judges or disciplines his children, what is his motive? 1 Corinthians 11:32

8. If we have no discipline what are we? Hebrews 12:8

9. What will we share in as a result of this discipline? Hebrews 12:10

10. What will this discipline ultimately produce? Hebrews 12:11

Personal Application

What did you learn from this lesson and how will you apply it to your life?
