

Is The Church Important?

It is a very common teaching today that Christ should be magnified but that the church is relatively unimportant. You can belong to the church of your choice, or you do not need to belong to any church. We shall answer this argument from the Bible.

We shall assume the truth of the following two propositions. The Bible, as it is, is sufficient for man as he is. The best commentary to the Bible is the Bible itself (II Timothy 3:16-17).

I held a meeting one time, and after the meeting a man came up to me and said, "Do you know what Moody said on baptism?" I said, "No, but I know what Paul said." Let me show you how the Bible is the best commentary on the Bible.

Jesus said that the church would be built on a rock. Certain commentaries would say that the rock was Peter. **What saith the scriptures?** I Corinthians 3:22 says that there is only one foundation **and that foundation was Christ.** I Corinthians 10:4 says that the rock was Christ. All the man-made commentaries in the world cannot change these basic truths (Hebrews 13:8).

The church is the body of Christ (Ephesians 1:22-23). Can we mutilate the body of Christ? Can we exchange that body for another body (Ephesians 4:4)? No, the church is to be presented to Christ without spot or wrinkle (Ephesians 5:27). Christ is the savior of the body (Ephesians 5:23). Christ purchased the church with his blood (Acts 20:28). Jesus said that the gospel was to be preached to every creature (Mark 16:15). Jesus said that He had all authority in heaven and on earth (Matthew 28:18). He became to those who obey him the author of eternal salvation (Hebrews 5:9).

We are justified by faith (Romans 5:1). Faith comes by hearing the word (Romans 10:17). Without faith it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6). Jesus prayed that we might believe through the word, given to us by the apostles (John 17:20-21). In order that we might listen to the apostles, we have the written word (John 20:30-31). The faith was once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3).

The Old Testament was our tutor to bring us to Christ, but now that Christ has come, we are no longer under the tutor (Galatians 3:24-25). When Jesus was on the Mount with the three apostles and Moses and Elijah appeared, Peter suggested that they have three places of worship: one for Moses, one for Elijah and one for Christ. God himself spoke from heaven. Listen to my Son. When John laid down the pen of inspiration he said that nothing more was to be added (Revelation 22:18-19).

For all time the church is to be honored with Christ (Ephesians 3:20-21). Men have made many denominations. But Jesus said that they were to be rooted up (Matthew 15:13). The church, that divine institution, began at the right time, at the right place. The Lord had declared that the law of the Lord would come from Jerusalem. God's house would come from there (Isaiah 2:2-3).

The apostles were gathered. The Holy Spirit, who was to guide them into all truth, came. The gospel had become an established fact. Christ had been raised from the dead. He had gone back to heaven (Acts 1:8-11). Jesus had said that repentance and the remission of sins should be preached in His name beginning from Jerusalem (Luke 24:46-47).

Peter explained the purpose of the coming of the Holy Spirit. Then he declared the fact of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. This brought conviction. The divine record says that they were pricked in their hearts (Acts 2:37). They asked what they should do. The answer came, not only from the apostles, but from the Holy Spirit. "And Peter said unto them, 'Repent ye and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" To whom does this apply? Verse 39 answers that question: "For to you is the promise, and to your children and **to all that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him**" (Emphasis mine - JCB). What happened? "They then who received his word were baptized, and there were added unto them in that day about 3,000 souls" (Acts 2:41).

What did this church do? "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread and the prayers."

Yes, the church is important. Christ did not die for something unimportant.

J.C. Bailey, 1993, Weyburn, Saskatchewan
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(<http://www.oldpaths.com>)

NEWSLETTER

July 03, 2016

Mark Dailey, evangelist
(716) 754-2752

Schedule of Services

Sunday AM Bible Class	9:45 AM
Sunday AM Worship	11:00 AM
* Sunday PM Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday PM Bible Class	7:00 PM

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** There is no PM service on the 5th Sunday of the month.*



We welcome all who are here today.

If you are a visitor we are honored to have you with us. Please fill out a *Visitor Card* (on the back of the pew in front of you) so we may have a record of your visit. Later in the service we will pass around a collection plate. As a visitor you are obviously not expected to give but we would like for you to place the *Visitor Card* in the collection plate. Thanks.

There is a nursery at the rear of the auditorium up the stairs for infant care.

Please silence cell phones and any other noise making devices during worship.

La Salle
church of Christ

A Place of Worship and Healing

2016 Theme

How To

Love
Let Go
Live
Learn
Lead
Laugh

Speaker
Phil Sanders

Time Warner Cable
Channel 20
Thursdays 11:00 AM

SEARCH^{IN}
OF THE LORD'S WAY[®]

Friendly Reminder

When the “blue light” is lit at the front of the auditorium it means “Quiet Please”.

Prayer List *In our prayers let’s praise God, recognize His greatness, and thank Him for His blessings.*

Let’s Keep These Folks In Our Prayers: Joe Pitts, Mildred Lynum, Bill Flanagan, Anna Brink, Red & Goldie Crow, Frank Marsden, Bill Kinney, Tony and Egla Grana, Pat Hazlett, David Alcorn, Willow, Darlene Reed, Leo & Jeanne Johns, Butts & Edie Sumner, Rick & Fran Fees, Chris Highway, Keith & Glory Marten, Bev McArthur, Candi Butcher, Cheryl Mellott, Ron Cameron, and Jodie Kelly.

Updates

Leo Johns has a follow-up doctors appointment July 7.

Renee Kinney continues to deal with cancer.

Diane Fritton, a friend of Diane Mellott, has been diagnosed with a very aggressive type of breast cancer. It is difficult to treat but after surgery she will have chemo and radiation therapy.

Anna Brink’s sister Betty has a friend in Baltimore, MD named **Patty** that has breast cancer and she finished her last treatment June 18.

Doreen Woods, a co-worker of Glory Marten, need prayers for health problems she is having.

Marc Morse, Bruce Brink's co-worker's husband, is going through some health issues. He was at the Cleveland Clinic recently and is waiting to hear results.

Also

Let’s pray for family, friends, and loved ones of our members who are having health and other problems.

Let’s not only remember those that are physically sick but those that are spiritually sick as well.

Let’s remember to pray for our shut-ins and to call and send cards.

Let’s pray for those dealing with family situations as well as work situations.

Let’s pray for those of our number who are looking for employment.

Let’s pray for those who may be traveling.

Let’s pray for the work we help support in Sardinia, NY and also Rogers City, MI.

Let’s pray for God’s people that are doing mission work all over the world.

Let’s also pray for Tim Nelsen and his family whom we are supporting as Tim goes to preaching school in July.

Let’s pray for people the world over that we may all learn to get along with each other.

Let’s give thanks to God for the Edmond, OK congregation for all the help they have given us.

Upcoming Events *(Lord willing)* (see web site for extended list)

Jul. 03 No potluck today. It will be July 10 instead.
Homecoming and Gospel Mtg. - Linwood church of Christ (see posting)

Jul. 04 Independence Day

Jul. 10 **Potluck** (Groups 1, 2, & 3 to setup & cleanup)

Jul. 16 Men’s Breakfast

Jul. 17 Men’s Business Meeting

Jul. 22 Ladies Devotional at the building.



Sermon Topic Today: How To Live Abundantly

Scripture Reading: John 10:10

Trays Today: *Diane Mellott*

Sun. AM Adult Class - Qualifications of Elders & Deacons
Sun. PM - A study of the Gospels (Tonight I Cor. 1-4)
Wed. PM Adult Class - The Book of Job

Attention Please

Recently, paperwork was handed out to the congregation. It was dated June 19. It was from Jessica Alcorn & Denise Garlitz. It concerned the Nelsen family. Please fill it out and return to Jessica or Denise as soon as possible. Thanks

ATTENTION MEMBERS

For the convenience of our visitors, if you are able, please use the restroom facilities downstairs. Thanks



We have a wonderful cleaning service that takes care of the building every week. However it is still each and everyone’s responsibility to help by cleaning up after themselves, especially our kitchen and restrooms.



The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.



Smile and pay someone a compliment today.

