

KNOW WHAT YOU BELIEVE - PAUL E. LITTLE

CHAPTER 9: THE CHURCH

Theme: The church is people who have been called out to Jesus Christ; it is not a building.

1. How does the word *ekklēsia* describe the church?

2. Describe and compare the church in the Old Testament with the church in the New Testament.

3. Where and when was the first church born?

4. Explain how the following verses describe the first church: "God does not show favoritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right" (Acts 10:34-35).

5. How do the following metaphors describe the church? The body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-31) The building of God (1 Peter 2:5; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20) The bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:25-27, 31-32; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:7; 22:17)

6. Describe the activities of the first church.

7. Describe the five membership requirements of the first church. How do these requirements compare to the membership requirements of the church today?

8. Explain the following three systems of church government: Episcopalianism
Presbyterianism Congregationalism

9. What do you think of this statement: "There is no such thing as a lone-wolf Christian"?

10. Examine your own view of church. Do you see church more as a building or as people gathered together? Why are you part of the church? What are you gaining spiritually and how are you serving in your church? Do you need to make some changes?

Hot coals increase in heat as they are clumped together; alone they grow cold.