

MEMBERSHIP

What is the Church?

Ephesians 4:15-16



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Leadership Connections

Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. on...

1. February 10
2. February 24
3. March 10
4. March 24

...in the church lobby.



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Psalm 42:1-2

As a deer pants for flowing streams,
so pants my soul for you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God,
for the living God.

When shall I come and appear before God?

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Psalm 63:1

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

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1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

For what is our hope or joy or crown of boasting before our Lord Jesus at his coming? Is it not you? For you are our glory and joy.

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To be found in people?

1. Joy
2. Hope
3. Glory
4. Life
5. Crown

Also see Philippians 2:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20, 3:8-10, 1 John 1:4, 3 John 4.

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1 John 4:20-21

If anyone says, “I love God,” and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

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Church Membership

1. Why Membership?
2. What is a Christian?
3. What is the Church?
4. Where does Summitview fit?
5. Who is Summitview?
6. What is Summitview doing?

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Connection Groups

Today (and the following three Sundays) at 11:30 a.m.

- Lunch and childcare are provided
- Room 221

Or, join on Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. in the lobby

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What is the Church?

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What is the Church?

Ekklesia

ek = out of

kaleō = to call

Literally means “called out ones” but was often used in ancient Greece to refer to a public assembly of citizens or a group gathered for a purpose.

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The “Big C” or Universal Church

Colossians 1:17-18 And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

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The “little c” or Local Church

1 Corinthians 1:2 To the church of God that is in Corinth...

Philippians 4:15 And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only.

Colossians 4:15-16 Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea.

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Three Metaphors

1. Family
2. Body
3. Army

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The Family

“**Our** Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give **us** this day **our** daily bread,
and forgive **us our** debts,
as **we** also have forgiven **our** debtors.
And lead **us** not into temptation,
but deliver **us** from evil. (Matthew 6:9-13)

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What is implied through “family”?

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What is implied through “family”?

1. Togetherness

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What is implied through “family”?

1. Togetherness
2. Understanding

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What is implied through “family”?

1. Togetherness
2. Understanding
3. Affection

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Thanksgiving

Philippians 1:3-5 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

Also see 1 Corinthians 1:4-9, Ephesians 1:15-16, Philippians 1:3-6, Colossians 1:3-5a, 1 Thessalonians 1:2-7, 2 Thessalonians 1:3, 2 Thessalonians 2:13 & Philemon 1:4-5.

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Three Metaphors

1. Family
2. Body
3. Army

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1 Corinthians 12

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ...

¹⁵ If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body...

²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable...

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What is implied through “body”?

1. Appreciation

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1 Corinthians 12

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵ that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

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What is implied through “body”?

1. Appreciation
2. Care

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The Body

Ephesians 4:15-16 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

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What is implied through “body”?

1. Appreciation
2. Care
3. Interdependency

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Three Metaphors

1. Family
2. Body
3. Army

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The Army

Philippians 2:25 I have thought it necessary to send to you
Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and **fellow soldier**,
and your messenger and minister to my need...

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What is implied through “army”?

1. Identification

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Baptism

Publicly identifying with Christ after coming to belief in him.

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What is implied through “army”?

1. Identification
2. Mission

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What is implied through “army”?

1. Identification
2. Mission
3. Organization

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Good (Organic)

- Informality
- Spontaneity
- Equality
- Expression
- Openness
- Authenticity

Bad (Institutional)

- Structures
- Systems
- Authority
- Formality
- Regularity
- Uniformity

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In defense of “institutions”

Read Acts 6:1-7 (p. 914)

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Three Metaphors

1. Family
2. Body
3. Army

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What is the Church?

Christians experiencing...

1. Togetherness
2. Understanding
3. Affection
4. Appreciation
5. Care
6. Interdependency
7. Identification
8. Mission
9. Organization

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Communion

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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Communion

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.

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