

The Importance of the Local Church

The local church is important because ...

III: It is a _____ Place: Is. 53:5

While it is Jesus Who brings about spiritual healing to a person, He allows and uses His church in the process. He uses His church to ...

A. share His _____ of healing

B. the _____ for healing

1. Church Is The Place where people hear and learn about God's _____ love for them: Ephesians 5:25
2. Church Is The Place where people come together to offer _____ to God: Psalms 5:7
3. It Is The Place that God has declared and ordained as the _____ and _____ of the truth: 1 Tim. 3:15
4. It Is The Place Where God's People can _____: Psalms 55:14
5. It Is The Place Where Sinners Are Both _____ and _____: Luke 14:23
6. It Is God's _____ For both local and World Evangelism: 1 Thessalonians 1:6-8
7. It Is A Place Of spiritual _____ and _____: Psalms 122:1
8. It Is A Place of _____: 2 Timothy 4:2

If the local church is a holy place, a hurting place, and a healing place that if founded by God by Jesus Christ, who has been given all power in heaven and in earth ... why would we want to remove it from our lives?

Friends, the local church is not outdated and it's not irrelevant! In fact, considering the of man's heart, and the condition of our nation it has never been more relevant than it is today.



January 22, 2023

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Various Scriptures

We continue with our Back to the Basics theme by looking at the *Importance of the Local Church*.

Satan has long attempted to thwart God's plan and design for the local church because he knows that it is through the local church it's ministries that the Gospel is spread, the Word of God is preached, souls are saved, and lives are changed. And he has been very effective, specifically in the last 50 years, at convincing people, including some Christians, that the local church is no longer relevant or needed in our culture. But what does God have to say about it? Is the local still important in the lives of the Christian?

This morning, we will see three basic reasons why the local church is still important and why we should never remove this landmark from or lives.

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The local church is important because...

I: It is a _____ Place: Eph. 5:26-27

Christ gave Himself in order that He might sanctify, which is to say “make holy”, His church and positionally this has already been done through His shed blood on Calvary cleansing the church. However, He progressively sanctifies the church through the preaching of God’s Word.

We must understand that the church is set apart because of ...

A. our _____: Matt. 16:18 / Acts 20:28

As Founder and the Author and Finisher of our faith, it is Christ who will determine when He is finished using His church and not man.

B. its _____ sets apart His Church: Matt. 7:18

The fruit of a Biblical church is two-fold:

- 1) the fruit of SOULS
 - 2) the fruit of the SPIRIT
-
-

C. its _____ sets apart His Church: Acts 16:4-5

The faith that we have is in THE only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; the faith that we have is in THE blood of Jesus, which is *shed for many for the remission of sins*; The faith that we have is in THE God/Man, *Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God*; the faith that we have is in *THE way and the truth and life*.

The landmark of the local church is set apart because it is a holy place of like-minded Believers that God still uses to this day.

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II: It is a _____ Place: John 16:20 / Acts 8:1

Just like a hospital is there to help those who are physically hurting. churches are designed and used by God to help those who are spiritually hurting.

The local church is to share ...

A. the message of _____: Eph. 2:5

Every person without Christ is spiritually hurting because they are in fact spiritually dead in their sins and separated from God.

B. bear each other’s _____: Gal. 6:2

The local church is important because we all have times of hurting; we all have times of struggle; we all have time when we need to just talk with someone or get counsel; and we all have the responsibility to not only let others within the church help us but also to help whenever and however possible in order to share the load that someone’s trying to carry alone.

C. _____ for the hurting: 1 Tim. 2:1 / Heb. 4:16

Whether a person can physically help with another’s burden in the church is indifferent to the fact that every person in the church can and should pray for the hurting within the church.

The landmark of the local church should not be removed because Jesus uses it to help, nourish, comfort, and teach the hurting soul.
