

The Institution of the Local Church

III: The _____ of the Local Church

Why does the Holy Spirit equip the church? Because the Founder and the Head of the local church has expectations for the church.

A. the local church is to _____ Christ to the world: 2 Cor. 5:20

B. the local church is to _____ into the Kingdom of God: Matthew 28:18-20

C. the local church is to _____ with the lost world using the Word of God as the source of truth: Is. 1:18

D. the local church is to _____ to the Holy Spirit and the Word of God: Eph. 5:10-11

The institution of church can be boiled down to this— Jesus founded and established His church; He equipped His church with the Holy Spirit and the Word of God; and expects His church, both individual believers and the collective congregation, to expand the kingdom of God, while at the same time, growing in grace in our walk with God, and serving Him, one another, and our community through the ministries of the local church.



March 6, 2022

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Matt. 16:18 / Eph. 4:11-12 / 2 Cor. 5:20

The devil hates the local church. He hates it because a Biblical local church makes an godly impact on communities and people's lives. He also hates the idea of people gathering together in order to worship the Lord. With this in mind, he does everything he can to devalue and make the church seem irrelevant in people's lives.

The Lord, however, instituted the local church for the purpose of carrying out the Great Commission in our communities and around the world.

As an encouragement and enlightenment to our new member candidates as well as to everyone else within our church, we begin this morning with a 3-part series relating specifically to God's design of the local church. And we begin this morning with the **Institution of the Local Church**.

The Institution of the Local Church

I: The _____ of the Local Church: Matt. 16:18

In Matthew 16:18 we clearly find the connection between Jesus and His Church (ecclesia), a called out assembly of saved, baptized Believers and not the kingdom of God or the kingdom of Heaven.

A. _____ of the church

- Jesus is the _____ of the Church (Matt. 16:18)
 - Jesus is the _____ of the Church (Eph. 5:23 / Col. 1:18)
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B. _____ of the church

Jesus founded the church and is Head of the church and continues to operate His church until He returns for His church at the rapture.

- all things are to be done decently and in order
 - sound doctrine is to be preached and taught
 - the church is to perform good works
 - the church is to operate according to the Great Commission.
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So the institution of the church was established by Jesus Christ ... He is its Founder and its Head. And He has designed the church to operate according to His principles, doctrines, and values as revealed, taught and directed by the Holy Spirit of God using the Word of God.

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II: The _____ of the Local Church: Eph. 4:11-12

Every Christian is called and equipped to do the work of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit. The local church is equipped for and by ...

A. the _____ of the local church: Eph. 4:11-12

Besides the ministries directed towards soul winning, the ministries of the church are for ...

- the perfecting of the saints
 - the work of the ministry
 - the edification of one another
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Believers within the church are empowered and guided by

B. The _____ within every believer: John 16:13- 14.

- He indwells every believer: 1 Cor. 3:16
 - He empowers every believer: Eph. 3:16
 - He guides every believer: John 16:13-14
 - He seals every believer: Eph. 1:13-14
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Believers are equipped by ...

C. The _____ of God being given to us: Heb. 4:12

The Holy Spirit always uses the Word of God to equip the believer for ministry in the local church. Therefore, our heart should be towards the local church because it can accomplish things in a person's life that no other organization can accomplish.
