



QA: Do You Think Church Is Important? by [John T Polk II](#)

All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.

QUESTION: Do you think church is important?

ANSWER: Paul called it "the church of God which He purchased with His own blood" (Acts 20:28). It cost the blood of Christ. Jesus is "the head of the body, the church" (Colossians 1:18). God has made the church important.

1. **The Lord's Church Are The Lord's Saved.** On Pentecost, after Jesus' resurrection:

[People] were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (**Acts 2:37-38**)

As a result, "those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them" (**Acts 2:41**). In fact, "the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (**Acts 2:47**). The Lord still adds to His church those whom He has saved, and the church of Christ is composed of the saved. Let the Lord add you. **"Church" means assembling.**

2. **Questions About Unity.** To the divided Corinthian church of Christ, Paul asked:

Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? (**1 Corinthians 1:13**)

Many people act as if denominations don't matter – but they do! Regardless of their affiliation, the claim is "we're all in the church of Christ." It may not matter to them, but it did to the Apostle Paul! "Is Christ divided" was answered in the New Testament with a resounding "NO!" Paul's appeal then was that there should be "no divisions among" Christians (**1 Corinthians 1:10**). Paul urged Christians to:

Note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. (**Romans 16:17**)

Divisions are not over "the doctrine" but over those who misrepresent and mis-teach that doctrine! **"Church" means unity.**

3. **Hyphenated Christians.** What "kind" of Christian are you? Paul found "contentions" in the Corinthian church of Christ caused by hyphenated Christians. Paul charged that:

Each of you says, "I am of Paul," or, "I am of Apollos," or, "I am of Cephas," or, "I am of Christ." Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?
(1 Corinthians 1:12-13)

Each group sought special identity among Christians, which defeated the purpose of Jesus' death. The churches of Christ should "all speak the same thing and that there be no divisions among" us (**1 Corinthians 1:10**). Those who only are "of Christ" were right, all the others had gone astray. Jesus Christ died to bring us together, people hyphenate to divide us up. Are you a hyphenated Christian? **"Church" means Christ's.**

— *jtp11, January 23, 2022*