

# What is My Place in the Church?

1Timothy 3:15 - "...I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

# What is My Place in the Church?

- Christians must be active members of local congregations
  - Acts 9:26-28 - “And when Saul had come to Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples; but they were all afraid of him, and did not believe that he was a disciple. 27 But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles. And he declared to them how he had seen the Lord on the road, and that He had spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. 28 So he was with them at Jerusalem, coming in and going out.”

# What is My Place in the Church?

- We often limit our view of those obligations to public service and observable behaviors
  - Heb. 10:25 - “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.”
  - 1Cor. 11:28 - “But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.”

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- We often limit our view of those obligations to public service and observable behaviors
  - 1Cor. 16:2 - “On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper”
  - Eph. 4:11 - “And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers”
- While these are important matters that must not be overlooked, they are not the only important matters that must not be overlooked

# What is My Place in the Church?

- The church is the “House of God” - 1Tim. 3:15.  
Therefore, Christians must:
  - Love all of the other children in God’s family
  - 1Peter 2:17 - “Honor all people. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the king.”

# What is My Place in the Church?

- The church is the “House of God” (1Tim. 3:15).  
Therefore, Christians must:
  - Seek always to do his brethren good
  - 1Tim. 6:18 - “Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share”

# What is My Place in the Church?

- The church is the “House of God” (1Tim. 3:15). Therefore, Christians must:
  - Set a good example for them, to share with them and help them as brothers and sisters
  - Rom. 14:17 - “For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”
  - Rom. 15:1 - “We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Be devoted to one another, give preference to one another.
  - Rom. 12:10 - “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Be of the same mind toward one another
  - Rom. 12:16 - “Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.”
  - Rom. 15:5-6 - “Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, 6 that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Love one another.
  - Rom. 13:8 - “Owe no one anything except to love one another, for he who loves another has fulfilled the law”
- Do not judge one another
  - Rom. 14:13 - “Therefore let us not judge one another anymore, but rather resolve this, not to put a stumbling block or a cause to fall in our brother's way.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Pursue the things that make for edification and peace.
  - Rom. 14:19 - “Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.”
- Accept one another.
  - Rom. 15:7 - “Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Admonish one another
  - Rom. 15:14 - “Now I myself am confident concerning you, my brethren, that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another”
  - 1Thes. 5:14 - “Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Serve one another.
  - Gal. 5:13 - “For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.”
- Bear one another's burdens.
  - Gal. 6:2 - “Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

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- Show forbearance to one another.
  - Eph. 4:1-2 - “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love”
- Be kind to one another.
  - Eph. 4:32 - “And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ forgave you.”

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- Teach and encourage each other in song
  - Eph. 5:18-19 - “And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Be honest with each other.
  - Col. 3:9 - “Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds”
- Be patient and forgiving with each other, including the frequently falling who make it difficult
  - Col. 3:12-13 - “Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Be one with God and His children
  - John 17:20-21 - “I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; 21 that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me”

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- How it is done
  - 1Cor. 1:10 - “Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”
  - Phil. 2:5 - “Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus”
  - Eph. 4:3 - “Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

# What Is My Place In The Local Church?

- Pray for each other.
  - Eph. 6:18-19 - “Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints-- 19 and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel”
- These are the works all members of a local congregation must do in order to maintain their place in the local church.