

# Basic Bible Lesson 7

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## Basic Bible Lessons

### CALVARY BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

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“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” II Timothy 2:15

### CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

#### I. What is a Church?

A. Our word church is translated from the Greek word Ekklesia - which means to call out together.

B. A church, then, is not a building but the collective body of Christians, of those who profess to believe in Christ and acknowledge him to be Savior of mankind. Acts 2:47 Acts 12:1 Rom 16:5 Acts 13:1

#### II. Why a local Church?

A. Christ died for the Church. Eph 5

B. As the Church grew, the Bible gives examples of local assemblies:

i. Gal. 1:2 Phil. 1:1 Eph 1:1 Rev 1:4; 2:1

C. The Church is a place of service to spread the gospel of Christ. Heb 10:25 Matt. 28:19-20

D. It sustains worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrine.

I Cor. 11:23,26 Jude 3

II Tim 3:16 I Tim 4:13

#### III Why should I join and become active ?

A. The word of God instructs us to assemble together. Heb 10:25

B. Christians need Christian fellowship and Christian companions.

II Cor 6:14

Rom 12: 10

C. A Christian needs the ministry of the local church, the singing, the praying, the testimonies and the preaching. All are helps in the Christian life. Palm 107:32 Psalm 149:1 Heb 2: 10-12 Prov 6:23

D. A Christian needs a Pastor, I Peter 5:1-6. The Lord established the church the way he did because of our need for spiritual supervision by a Pastor, who holds himself accountable to God. Heb 13:7,17. The word "Pastor" means "overseer"; Eph. 4:11-12.

A. A Christian needs someplace where he can go regularly for edification, exhortation and admonishment. Heb 10:25, Heb 13:17, I Thess. 5:11, I Tim 4:13.

B. A Christian needs someplace to go where he can bring his offering to God. Every Christian is responsible for giving the Lord's work through the church. I cor. 16:2. The church is the storehouse where God has appointed us to bring the tithes and offerings. Acts 5:1-11, Mal. 3:9-10.

C. A Christian should participate in the world mission program of the church. We are responsible to see that the gospel message is spread around the world. Acts 1:8, Matt. 28:19, Mark 16:15.

D. A Christian should strive for the advancement of the church and promote its prosperity and spirituality. Phil. 1:27, II Tim. 2:15, II cor. 7:1

IV How was the church started ?

C. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Acts 1:8

D. Bought by the blood of Christ. Acts 20: 28, Eph 5:25

E. Planned before the creation of the world. Eph 3:1-9

I. The local church, being independent, should be self-supporting. I Cor 16:2, Mal. 3:9-10, Acts 5:1-11

A. Why are we to give?

- i. To honor the Lord. Prov. 3:9-10
- ii. It is a direct command. Mal 3:9-10, Lev. 27:30
- iii. Promised blessing to the giver. Luke 6:38
- iv. Because of God's judgement upon those who withhold. Mal. 3:9

B. How much are we to give?

- i. The tithe or literally "the tenth"; Gen. 28:22, Heb 7:1-3 (the tithe was b  
why should God expect any less under grace?)

C. When are we to give?

- i. Upon the first day of the week. I Cor. 16:2, Acts 20:7

CONCLUSION:

Membership in a local Bible believing church is the will of God for every saved Christian. It should always be remembered that the church was purchased at the death of the Lord and by his blood. Membership should be thought of as a privilege and the church treated in great honor as Paul instructed Timothy. I Tim. 3:15