

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus

Week 1

Lesson Title: The Purpose Of The Church

Memory Work: "Christ. . .in Him also we have obtained an inheritance." Ephesians 1:11.

DAY 1 The church is to be God's inheritance.

- A. The faithful are to be his "sons" in heaven; Ephesians 1:5, His "possession," Ephesians 1:14; His "inheritance," Ephesians 1:18.**
- B. The church (in Greek: "called out") are those answering God's call to be His "people," Romans 9:24-26.**

DAY 2 Those in the church receive an eternal inheritance.

- A. Eternal redemption, Hebrews 9:11-15.**
- B. Eternal life, Matthew 19:29.**
- C. Entrance into that final and eternal phase of the kingdom at the last day, Matthew 25:34, II Peter 1:10-11.**
- D. It is incorruptible, undefiled, "reserved," I Peter 1:3-5.**
- E. The Holy Spirit is a pledge of "our inheritance," Ephesians 1:14.**

DAY 3 The church will be saved from the punishment of hell.

- A. Jesus will save only the church, his body. Therefore, being a part of the church is most important to us, Ephesians 5:23.**
- B. This is why Jesus bought the church with his blood, Acts 20:28, to present it perfect for heaven, Ephesians 5:25-27.**

DAY 4 It is the church only that now receives God's spiritual blessings.

- A. "All" *spiritual* blessings are only for those "in Christ," Ephesians 1:3.**
- B. God gives *physical* blessings to both the just and the unjust, Matthew 5:45; Acts 14:15-17; Psalm 104:14-15.**

DAY 5 God honors Christ by putting the church under His authority.

- A. God purposed "administration" by Christ over the established kingdom (church), Ephesians 1:10; Philippians 2:9-10.**
- B. The church is the "fulness" or completeness of Christ and his mission on earth. Without it, His work and death would have been in vain, Ephesians 1:22-23.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: God Calls Us

Week 2

Memory Work: "God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,*! Corinthians 1:9.

DAY 1 The word, "church."

- A. "Church" comes from the word meaning "called out people." It may refer to many groups, but there is only one called out by God. We have a relationship with God, have responded to His call by leaving the world and have entered His Son's kingdom, II Peter 1:10-11.**
- B. We are to separate ourselves from sinners, II Corinthians 6:14-18.**
- C. Only a few respond by separating themselves from the sins of the world to become the "called out," Matthew 22:14.**

DAY 2 To what has God called us?

- A. Out of darkness into light, I Peter 2:9-10; Colossians 1:13.**
- B. Into one "body" (church), Colossians 3:15.**
- C. Into fellowship with Christ, I Corinthians 1:9.**
- D. To eternal glory, I Peter 5:10.**

DAY 3 By whom are we called?

- A. It is a heavenly calling, Hebrews 3:1, through Christ, Hebrews 1:1-2; Galatians 1:6.**
- B. No man can come to Christ except the Father draw him, John 6:44-45; 12:32. God accomplishes this through His prophets and the death of Christ.**

DAY 4 By what does the Father call us?

- A. We are called by the gospel (good news), II Thessalonians 2:13-15; II Timothy 1:8-10.**
- B. God's power to save is through the gospel, Romans 1:16.**
- C. All who don't obey the gospel to be punished, II Thessalonians 1:6-12.**

DAY 5 What are we called to be?

- A. We are called to be sons of God, Romans 9:25-26.**
- B. We are called to be saints (set apart for God's own use), Romans 1:6-7; I Thessalonians 4:7.**
- C. We are called on to suffer as Christ, our example, did, I Peter 2:20-21.**
- D. We are called to freedom from the Old Law into a perfect law, Galatians 5:13.**
- E. To be righteous, I Peter 3:8-9.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus

Week 3

Lesson Title: When The Church Started

Memory Work: "All the churches of Christ greet you," Romans 16:16.

- DAY 1** John the baptizer prepared for the coming of the church.
- A. John preached repentance because the church (kingdom) was soon to come with the Christ, Matthew 3:1-3.**
 - B. Men even tried to force its coming in John's day, Matthew 11:7-13.**
- DAY 2** Jesus taught about the church's coming.
- A. Jesus taught the same message, Matthew 4:17.**
 - B. After John's imprisonment, Jesus went to Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom with its beginning near, Mark 1:14-15.**
- DAY 3** Jesus taught about the church, but it wasn't established until after he ascended.
- A. The disciples were taught to pray for it to come, Matthew 6:9-10.**
 - B. While teaching, Jesus promised to build his church in the future, Matthew 16:18.**
 - C. The disciples were not yet in it, but Jesus promised it would come in their lifetime, Luke 9:27.**
 - D. The disciples were still waiting for it after His death and ascension, Mark 15:43; Acts 1:6.**
- DAY 4** The church began on the feast day of Pentecost, 50 days after Jesus' death.
- A. It was foretold to begin in the "last days" in the city of Jerusalem, Isaiah 2:2-3a; Luke 24:47.**
 - B. Jesus said it would come with "power," Mark 9:1; Acts 1:6-9.**
 - C. The church came as prophesied on Pentecost in 30 A.D. at 9 o'clock in the morning with "power," Acts 2:1-4, 16, 17.**
- DAY 5** That church has existed until now.
- A. On the day of Pentecost, about 3,000 souls joined the apostles and became the Jerusalem church of Christ, Acts 2:41-42. This church was still in existence several years later, Acts 5:11.**
 - B. Once established, God intended the kingdom never to be destroyed, Daniel 2:44-45; Luke 1:32-33.**
 - C. Paul gave greetings to the church at Rome from all the churches of Christ, Romans 16:16.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: Other Titles Of The Church of Christ

Week 4

Memory Work: "He made us to be a kingdom, priests to His God and Father/"Rev. 1:6.

DAY 1 The Kingdom of God.

- A. We have been made to be a kingdom, Revelation 1:6, as Jesus promised, Mark 9:1, with Himself as King, Matthew 27:11.**
- B. It is a spiritual kingdom, John 18:36-37.**
- C. We are a "royal priesthood/" I Peter 2:9; Hebrews 8:1; 7:24-25.**

DAY 2 The household of God.

- A. The word "household" designates a family. God is the Father of the spiritual family, Matthew 23:9.**
- B. God placed His Son, Jesus, over His household, Hebrews 3:6.**
- C. Christians are the children of the household, I John 3:1; Ephesians 2:19.**

DAY 3 The body of Christ.

- A. God calls the church Christ's body, and made Christ to be its head, Ephesians 1:22-23.**
- B. Each Christian is part of the body, 1 Corinthians 12:12-13.**
- C. Each part of the body has his own work to do, the same as our own bodies, I Corinthians 12:14-27.**

DAY 4 The vineyard of the Lord.

- A. The church is like a vineyard, in that it is a place to work and bear fruit, Luke 13:6-9.**
- B. Jesus' disciples are to glorify the Father by bearing fruit (good works), John 15:8.**

DAY 5 Additional titles of the church.

- A. "Holy temple," made up of all Christians, Ephesians 2:19-22; I Peter 2:5.**
- B. "Royal (of a king) Priesthood," I Peter 2:9; Hebrews 8:1; 7:24.**
- C. "Holy nation," citizens, I Peter 2:9; Philippians 3:20; Ephesians 2:13-22.**
- D. "Bride" of Christ, Revelation 19:7-9; Romans 7:4; Ephesians 5:22-32.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: God's Organization of the Church

Week 5

Memory Work: "He . . . gave Him as head over all things to the church, which is His body,"
Ephesians 1:22-23.

DAY 1 The church — Worldwide.

- A. There are several uses of the word "church." One is the universal, comprehensive sense, including all Christians on earth, Matthew 16:18. "Church:" those called out of the world by the gospel of Christ.
- B. Jesus is the founder and builder of it, Matthew 16:18; it belongs to Him.
- C. The Father made Jesus its head, Ephesians 1:22-23. If the head is in heaven, another "head" cannot be on earth at the same time.

DAY 2 Jesus used his apostles to give the church His instructions.

- A. Jesus told the apostles to go into all the world and preach the good news of His church, Matthew 28:18-20; John 17:18-20.
- B. The twelve apostles now sit on twelve thrones judging the church (twelve spiritual tribes), Matthew 19:28, by what they spoke. Jesus had them write and speak what God wants us to know, John 16:13.
- C. We must follow their teachings, II Thessalonians 2:14-15; Jude 3.
- D. We will be judged by their writings, Revelation 20:12.

DAY 3 The church — Local: an easily identified entity by location, name, organization and work.

- A. "Church" is used in a limited sense to apply to God's people in one community, I Corinthians 1:2; Romans 16:16. Note the seven churches of Asia, Revelation 1:4. (see also chapters 2-3).
- B. "Church" may also refer to a particular *assembly* of these local Christians, I Corinthians 11:18.
- C. Local church exists as such whether assembled or not, I Timothy 5:16. "It" has responsibilities, as a unit, though not assembled in one place.

DAY 4 God designated *elders*, where qualified, to be leaders in local churches.

- A. Elders appointed, Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5, to care for Christians only in the local congregation where they were elders, I Peter 5:1-4.
- B. God gave qualifications for such work, Titus 1:6-9; I Timothy 3:1-7.
- C. The local church is to follow and respect the elders, Hebrews 13:17.

DAY 5 God placed *deacons* in the church to serve.

- A. "Deacon" means servant. The earliest mention of special servants is in Acts 6:1-3, which was of temporary nature. Later, such a position was settled in the church by statement of qualifications and association, I Timothy 3:8-13; Phillipians 1:1.

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: The Work The Church Is To Do

Week 6

Memory Work: "For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ." Ephesians 4:12.

- DAY 1 The church must work to grow spiritually and in knowledge.**
 A. God gave the church gifts so that its members would be able to grow in knowledge, faith, and love, Ephesians 4:11-16.
 B. The church: God's only "pillar and support of the truth," I Timothy 3:15.
- DAY 2 The church is to glorify God.**
 A. The church through all ages is to give glory to God, Ephesians 3:21.
 B. The church worships God in the assembly and as individual Christians separately, such as in singing, James 5:13, Hebrews 2:12.
- DAY 3 Local churches send preachers to teach in other areas.**
 A. Preachers must be sent for others to believe, Romans 10:14-15.
 B. The church at Philippi helped support (called "fellowship") Paul at Rome, Thessalonica, and Corinth, Philippians 1:3; 4:15-16.
 C. Jerusalem church sent Barnabas to Antioch, Acts 11:22-26.
- DAY 4 We are to strengthen one another as the church.**
 A. We are to admonish the disorderly, encourage the fainthearted, and support weak Christians, I Thessalonians 5:12-14; Hebrews 10:23-25.
 B. We are to show love toward each other, Philippians 2:1-4.
- DAY 5 The church is to minister to poor Christians.**
 A. We are to help those Christians in need, Romans 12:13; 15:25-27.
 B. We were created in Christ to do good works, Ephesians 2:10.

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus

Week 7

Lesson Title: The Church Is To Worship God

Memory Work: "God is spirit; and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth," John 4:24.

DAY 1 Christians worship the Father through prayer.

A. Members of the church are all priests and offer their own prayers to God, I Peter 2:5,9.

B. God wants men everywhere to pray to him, I Timothy 2:8.

C. We must pray to the Father in Jesus¹ name, because as high priest, He intercedes for us, John 14:13-14.

DAY 2 Christians worship God through singing.

A. God wants us to sing when we are happy, James 5:13.

B. We teach and admonish one another in song, Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16.

DAY 3 Jesus instructed us to eat a special memorial supper and proclaim His death.

A. He taught us how to eat this special supper in the church, Matthew 26:26-29; I Corinthians 11:18-34.

B. Paul showed us that Christians are only to eat this supper when they assemble together on Sunday to worship God, I Corinthians 11:18-34, Acts 20:7.

DAY 4 We serve God by giving money to His work.

A. As stewards, we give part of our money to God on Sunday, I Corinthians 16:1-2.

B. We give because we love God, Mark 12:41-44; II Corinthians 8:1-9.

C. God has a rule for giving, II Corinthians 9:6-7.

DAY 5 The church gives praise and worship to God by teaching his gospel.

A. We have someone preach during our worship, Acts 20:7; 25-27.

B. Jesus gave us the gospel to teach and preach, and warned us not to preach anything else, Galatians 1:6-9.

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus

Week 8

Lesson Title: The Purity Of The Church

Memory Work: "The church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she should be holy and blameless," Ephesians 5:27.

DAY 1 God wants a clean, spotless church.

A. Christ died to make this possible, Ephesians 5:25-27.

B. This is possible by Christians staying clean by the power of Christ's blood, I John 1:6-7.

DAY 2 The Christian must keep himself pure and clean from all sin.

A. Pure religion demands: "Keep oneself unstained by the world," by staying away from what God dislikes, James 1:27; I John 3:3.

B. We cannot be a friend of the sinful things of the world and also of God, James 4:4; I John 2:15-17.

DAY 3 Members of God's church can no longer live as others.

A. We are to present our bodies a living sacrifice to God, Romans 12:1.

B. We are not to live like those outside the church, Romans 12:2.

C. We should not use our bodies for the wrong things, but for doing what is right for God, Romans 6:12-14; I Peter 4:1-4.

DAY 4 God will use pure Christians.

A. If we remain clean from sins, God will use us for His work, II Timothy 2:20-22; Titus 2:11-14.

B. Christians know how to live, keeping all things pure, while to those in the world, these things are joked, lied, and cheated about, causing the worldly minded to think of them as dirty or evil, Titus 1:15-16.

DAY 5 Jesus will not tolerate a sinful church.

A. If a church does not keep its love and faithfulness, then Christ will not recognize it as one of His, Revelation 2:1-5. (Note: *candlesticks* are the churches, Revelation 1:20).

B. He will not wait long for a church to correct itself, Revelation 2:16-24.

C. The Galatian churches were being led by false teaching toward a severing from Christ, Galatians 1:2, 6-8; 3:1-2; 5:4.

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: Dangers To The Church

Week 9

Memory Work: "There will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies," II Peter 2:1.

DAY 1 Beware of false teachers.

- A. Every book of the New Testament contains warnings against false teachers. Typical is II Peter 2:1-3, 17-19.**
- B. Jesus warned of them while he was here, Matthew 15:13-14.**
- C. Point out false teachers; they serve only themselves, Romans 16:17-18.**

DAY 2 Expect to be hated by others.

- A. The world will hate us as it did Jesus, John 15:18-21.**
- B. We are blessed (well spoken of by God) when men hate us for Jesus and his teachings sake, Luke 6:22-23.**
- C. Must remain faithful to the end to be saved, Matthew 24:9-13.**

DAY 3 God warns us against the dangers of sinning after we learn His word.

- A. We can live so long in sin that we are unable to repent because our heart gets hard and we will not listen anymore, Hebrews 6:4-8; 3:7-8.**
- B. When we sin God wants us to tell Him we are sorry, repent and ask forgiveness before we get used to doing the sin and our conscience gets hard, I John 1:8-9.**

DAY 4 What does God think of a Christian who quits Jesus¹ commandments to enjoy the pleasures of this world?

- A. God said it would be better for them if they had never learned and become Christians, Luke 12:46-47; II Peter 2:20-22.**
- B. "Lukewarm" Christians make God sick to His stomach and make Him want to vomit them out of His mouth, Revelation 3:15-16.**

DAY 5 What will God do to a Christian who keeps on knowingly sinning?

- A. God will discipline us now, Hebrews 12:5-11.**
- B. If we continue to sin, God will take vengeance on us, Hebrews 10:26-31.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: The Church and Unfaithful Christians

Week 10

Memory Work: "Admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with all men," I Thessalonians 5:14,

- DAY 1** Jesus told us how to help a Christian who sins.
- A. God cares about each one who leaves Him, Matthew 18:12-14.**
 - B. Jesus said to bring such back to God, Matthew 18:15-20.**
 - 1. Go yourself and admonish him — 15.**
 - 2. If he refuses to listen, take someone with you as witnesses and admonish again — 16.**
 - 3. If he also refuses to hear these, tell it to the church — 17.**
 - 4. If he still refuses the church, then treat him accordingly — 17.**
 - 5. Jesus said this action will be bound in heaven — 18-20.**
- DAY 2** Peter gives an example of admonishing a Christian who sins, Acts 8:18-24.
- A. Tell him what sin he has committed.**
 - B. Admonish him to repent (change his mind so he will not do it again).**
 - C. Instruct him to pray to God for forgiveness.**
- DAY 3** The church is to listen to accusations from witnesses.
- A. Those who have sinned and not repented, II Corinthians 12:21-13:2.**
 - 1. With two or three witnesses the church proves their sin.**
 - 2. If they do not repent, the church is not to spare them.**
 - B. The church is never to receive an accusation against a person except by two or three witnesses, I Timothy 5:19-21.**
- DAY 4** Corinth was instructed in discipline of members who sin, I Corinthians 5.
- A. We are to mourn for the one who sins, vs. 2.**
 - B. When the church is gathered together, deliver him to Satan that he may realize his error, vs. 5. This also keeps the church pure, vs. 6-8.**
 - C. We are not to keep company with such a person, but judge them sinners, vs. 9-13.**
- DAY 5** The Thessalonians were to correct a member who walked disorderly.
- A. Exhort and encourage those who need it, I Thessalonians 5:14-15.**
 - B. Withdraw ourselves from every member that walks disorderly (out of step), II Thessalonians 3:6.**
 - C. If a man does not obey the scriptures, we are not to keep company with him, but to admonish him as a brother, II Thessalonians 3:14-15.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus

Week 11

Lesson Title: God Gives The Church Spiritual Blessings

Memory Work: "God.. .blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ," Ephesians 1:3.

- DAY 1** God gave spiritual blessings only to the church.
- A. Explain "spiritualblessings" (prayer, Proverbs 15:29, salvation, Acts 2:47, etc.).**
 - B. God puts all blessings in the church (in Christ), Ephesians 1:3.**
 - C. Jesus¹ blood is only for His church, Acts 20:28.**
- DAY 2** God gives Christians the Holy Spirit as a gift.
- A. The Holy Spirit is a gift from God when we are baptized, Acts 2:38; 5:32.**
 - B. The Spirit strengthens us, Ephesians 3:16, intercedes in prayer, Romans 8:9-11.**
 - C. The Spirit is given to us as God's pledge of our eternal life, II Corinthians 5:1-5.**
- DAY 3** God adopts us as sons.
- A. We are adopted as sons through Jesus, Ephesians 1:5.**
 - B. God loves us by promising our resurrection body will be like that which Jesus has now, so we can be His children in heaven, I John 3:1-2.**
- DAY 4** God redeems us through Jesus.
- A. People of all nations are being purchased (redeemed) by Christ for God, Revelation 5:9.**
 - B. God through Jesus gives us redemption, forgiveness, and justification (not considered guilty anymore), Ephesians 1:7; Romans 5:6-9.**
- DAY 5 *** God gives his children the privilege of talking to him (prayer).
- A. Only prayers of the saints (Christians) are attended to by the Father, I Peter 3:12; Revelation 5:8; 8:3-4.**
 - B. God will answer prayers, James 5:16-18.**

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: How To Become a Member Of The Church

Week 12

Memory Work: "Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God," John 3:5.

- DAY 1** We are saved by the "foolishness" of *preaching* (as some value preaching).
A. We cannot call on God until we believe, and cannot believe until we hear God's will, Romans 10:14-17.
B. God commissioned the apostles to preach to the entire world, Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16.
C. By this preaching, we are saved from a spiritual death in hell, I Corinthians 1:21.
- DAY 2** We must *believe* the preaching of God's will.
A. We must believe that Jesus is God's Son, John 8:24-32.
B. If we believe in Jesus, we "should" live so as to obtain salvation, John 3:16.
- DAY 3** We must *repent*.
A. Jesus wants everyone to repent, Luke 13:3-5.
B. Godly sorrow produces true repentance, II Corinthians 7:9-10.
C. We are to repent (change our mind to serve God) and turn (start doing all of God's will), Acts 3:19.
- DAY 4** We must be willing to *tell others* about Christ.
A. We must continue confessing Christ by speaking of Him to others, Romans 10:9-10; Luke 12:8-9.
B. Every tongue shall one day confess Christ, Philippians 2:11.
- DAY 5** We are *baptized* into Christ, which is the church.
A. By faith we are baptized for the remission of our sins and into Christ, Acts 2:36-38; Galatians 3:26-27.
B. This is being "born again," John 3:3-5.
C. Baptism now saves us, I Peter 3:20-21.
D. The saving power of Jesus' blood was through His death, and baptism puts us into His death to be washed with His blood, Romans 6:3-5.

Series Title: "I Will Build My Church," Jesus
Lesson Title: Review

Week 13

Memory Work: "For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ/' Galatians 3:27.

- DAY 1**
1. What is God's purpose for the church? Wk 1-D1,2 and 3.
 2. Does God limit those who receive His spiritual blessings? Wk 1-D4; Wk 11-D1.
 3. Name some of the spiritual blessings God gives. Wk 11-D1,3,4 and 5.
 4. When and why does a Christian receive the Holy Spirit as a gift? Wk 11-D2.
- DAY 2**
1. How does God call us? Wk 2-D4.
 2. To what are we called? Wk 2-D2.
 3. When did Jesus promise the disciples He would start His church? Wk 3-D3.
 4. When did the church actually begin? Wk 3-D4.
- DAY 3**
1. What are some other titles or names used to describe the church? Wk 4-D1-5.
 2. Who wrote the law for the church? Wk 5-D2.
 3. Describe the organization the Lord gave to the church. Wk 5-D4-5
 4. What is the primary work of the church? Wk 6-D5.
- DAY 4**
1. What is the function of the church toward needy people? Wk 6-D5.
 2. How is the church instructed to worship God? Wk 7-D1-5.
 3. Does Christ expect His church to be spotless? Wk 8-D1,2 and 4.
 4. What dangerous people does God warn the church against ? Wk 9-D1,2,3.
- DAY 5**
1. What does God promise those who turn back into sin? Wk 9-D4,5.
 2. What has God commanded the church concerning an unfaithful Christian? Wk 10 D1-5.
 3. What is the purpose God chose for preaching? Wk 12-D1.
 4. How does one become a member of the Lord's church? Wk 12-D2 to 5.