

INTRODUCTION

When most people hear the word “church” they usually think of a building. However, the church is NOT a building – it IS people. The “Church” encompasses all those who are a part of the Body of Christ (Jesus-followers). The “Church” is our true HOME.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was your family known for growing up? How was your family different than the church – the family of God?
2. Read Titus 2:11-14. What is grace? How does grace help you to live an ‘upright and godly life’?
3. What is the ‘Blessed Hope’ that all Christians are waiting for?
4. Aaron said in Sunday’s message that Jesus didn’t sacrifice Himself for YOU, He gave Himself for the CHURCH (Titus 2:14). Do you agree? Why or why not?
5. Read Ephesians 2:19-21. What does it mean for us to fellowship citizens and members of God’s household? What does that look like practically in your life?
6. How have you experienced ‘belonging’ (forgiveness, healing, comfort, wholeness, faithfulness, freedom, generosity or peace) in the church? How have you shown someone else forgiveness, healing, comfort, wholeness, faithfulness, freedom, generosity or peace recently?
7. Have you ever come to church with expectations of what you would get out of it? If, as Aaron said on Sunday, church is not something we **do**, it’s something we **are**, *together*, does coming to church looking to ‘get’ something make church different than what was intended?

8. Read Acts 20:28 and Ephesians 5:25. What value does God place on the church? Does knowing this affect the way you feel about church?

SCRIPTURE

¹¹For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. ¹²It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave Himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good.

Titus 2:11-14

APPLICATION

Think about the different environments you are in throughout the week (school, work, home, church, community). How are you acting as a member of God’s family in each of those places? Pray and ask the Spirit to use you to make Him known.