

The Local Christian Church Is For You And For Those To Come

Ephesians 3:6-12 (The Message)

“FOR PETE’S SAKE, WHY DO WE MAKE SUCH A BIG DEAL ABOUT THE LOCAL CHURCH?”

THE CHURCH SHAPED AND SAVED MY LIFE!

- Preventative
- I know the me me and you know the you you!

1. It shaped my conscience and my Jesus Worldview (Romans 7:7)
2. Instilled a sense of purpose.

“This is my life work: helping people understand and respond to this Message...the inexhaustible riches and generosity of Christ.” (3:7-8)

3. Provided the context for lifelong friendships.

“Through followers of Jesus like yourselves gathered in churches...”

4. Served as a window into God’s activity all over the world. (Listen to PM’s sermon from last week)

“...this extraordinary plan of God is becoming known and talked about even among the angels!”

5. Taught me to be generous.

“Give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.” Luke 6:38

I’VE CONCLUDED...

- A follower of Jesus will have a better life.
- A follower of Jesus will be better at life.
- A follower of Jesus will be made into a fisher of men.
- A follower of Jesus will have Eternal Life.
- **A STRONG LOCAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH = A STRONG COMMUNITY!**
[Ancient history, modern history, and current history prove that the local Christian church (Judeo-Christian) provides the strongest argument for the dignity of individuals and for human rights.] (*Vanishing Grace*, Phillip Yance)

“‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. The second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:37-39

Outside of your family, there is no better investment in the world than in the local church and for those to come.