

Acts 2:40-47 (p 1254)

“I will build my church”

Matthew 16:18 (p 1131)



Does Church Membership Matter?



THE CHURCH AT JERUSALEM

- Fellowship Acts 4:23-24 (p 1257)
- Prayer Acts 4:31 (p 1257)
- Benevolence Acts 4:32 (p 1257)
- Fear Acts 5:11 (p 1258)
- Evangelism Acts 5:28 (p 1258)
- Widows Acts 6:1 (p 1259)
- Persecution Acts 8:1 (p 1262)

The Universal and Local Church

✓ **Universal** church

Acts 2:47 (p 1255)

Ephesians 5:23 (p 1346)

✓ **Local** churches

Acts 14:21-23 (p 1272)



"To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints."

(Romans 1:7)

"To the church of God which is at Corinth."

(1 Corinthians 1:2; 2 Corinthians 1:1)

"To the churches of Galatia."

(Galatians 1:2)

"To the saints who are in Ephesus."

(Ephesians 1:1)

**"To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in
Philippi."**

(Philippi 1:1)

**"To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ
who are in Colosse."**

(Colossians 1:2)

**"To the church of the Thessalonians in God the
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."**

(1 Thessalonians 1:1; 2 Thessalonians 1:1)

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH

- Christ is the **HEAD**

And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:18 (p 1353)



THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH

- Structure in the church

Ephesians 4:11-12 (p 1345)

Apostles Acts 6:2 (p 1259)

Prophets Acts 11:27-28 (p 1268)

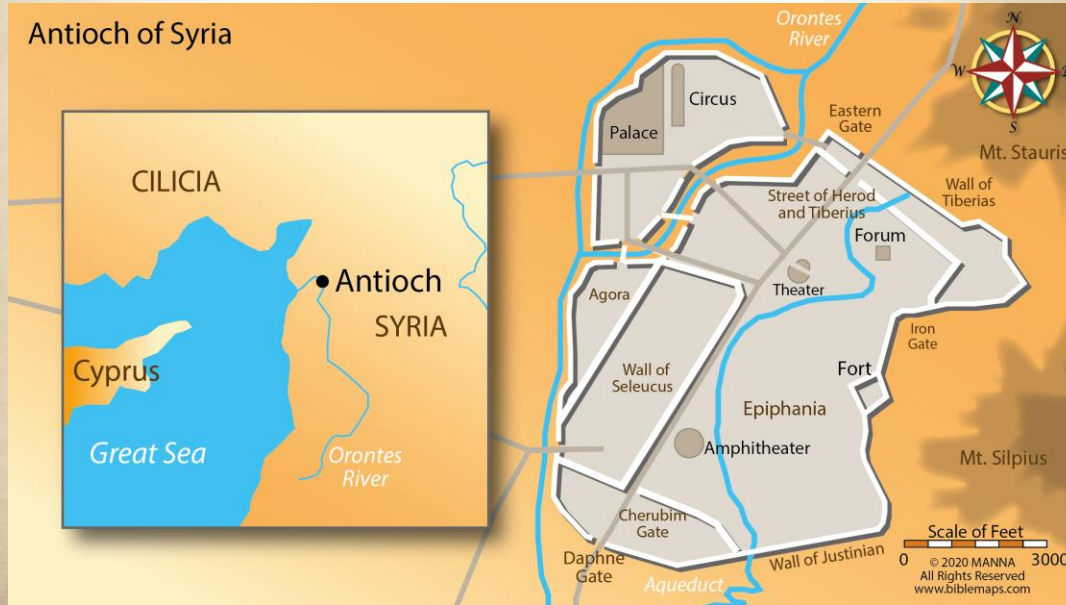
Evangelist Acts 8:26-40 (p 1263)

Pastors Acts 20:17 (p 1281)

Teachers Acts 18:26 (p 1278)

ANTIOCH

Acts 12:25-13:3 (p 1269)



DOES CHURCH MEMBERSHIP MATTER?

Paul tried to join the Jerusalem church

Acts 9:26-28 (p 1264)

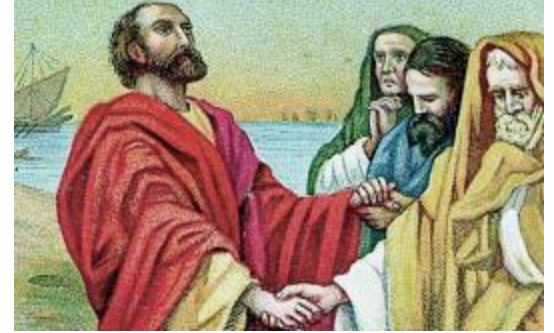
Paul warned the Ephesians elders

Acts 20:28-29 (p 1281)

“come in among you, not sparing the flock”

The church at Corinth

1 Corinthians 5:1, 4 (p 1313-1314)



DOES CHURCH MEMBERSHIP MATTER?

The church at Philipp had elders and deacons

Philippians 1:1 (p 1348)

Qualities of elders and deacons

1 Timothy 3:1-13 (p 1363)

Titus 1:5-16 (p 1369)

The widows who are included in the number

1 Timothy 5:9 (p 1364)

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PLACE MEMBERSHIP WITH A LOCAL CHURCH?

To fulfill the pattern of the NT Church

- ✓ **Oversight** Hebrews 13:17 (p 1385)
- ✓ **Worship** Hebrews 10:24-25 (p 1381)
- ✓ **Work** Ephesians 4:12-16 (p 1345)



WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO PLACE MEMBERSHIP WITH A LOCAL CHURCH?

Blessings of the local congregation

Care for one another Galatians 6:1-2 (p 1341)

Comfort of saints 2 Cor. 1:3-5 (p 1326)

Concern for the work 1 Thess. 5:11-14 (p 1358)

Church discipline 2 Thess. 3:6-15 (p 1361)

TO THE INTENT THAT NOW THE MANIFOLD
WISDOM OF GOD MIGHT BE MADE KNOWN
BY THE CHURCH TO THE PRINCIPALITIES
AND POWERS IN THE HEAVENLY PLACES
(EPHESIANS 3:10)





Acts 2:38

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.