

# What Every Christian Should Know



Core Beliefs to Help You  
Stand Strong in a Shifting World

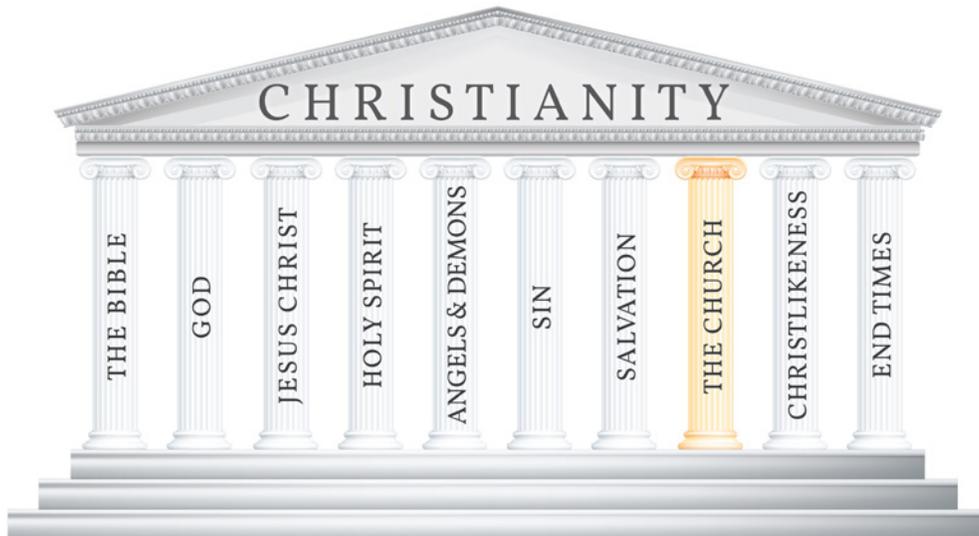
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## “What Every Christian Should Know About The Church”

EPHESIANS 5:25

**Introduction:** Many Christians view the church as an outdated and irrelevant organization that may have outlived its relevance in today’s world. But as we will discover today, God established the church as His primary vessel to accomplish His purpose on the earth.

### 10 PILLARS OF HISTORIC CHRISTIANITY



#### I. The Definition Of The Church

##### A. The Universal Church (Ephesians 5:25; Hebrews 12:23)

**Definition:** The universal church is composed of **all** people on earth and in heaven who have trusted in Christ since the day of **Pentecost**.

##### B. The Local Church (Revelation 2-3)

**Definition:** The local church is a group of **baptized believers** who have **organized** themselves for the purpose of doing God’s **will**.



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## “What Every Christian Should Know About The Church” EPHESIANS 5:25

### 1. “Baptized Believers” (1 Corinthians 12:13)

1 Corinthians 12:13 “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”

### 2. “Organized Themselves” (Philippians 1:1)

#### The Two Offices In The Church Today (Philippians 1:1)

### 1. “**Pastor**” (Also called the “overseer,” “elder,” or “shepherd.”) (1 Peter 5:1-4)

### 2. “**Deacon**” (1 Timothy 3:8-13)

Acts 6:5 “The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nichola, a proselyte from Antioch.”

### 3. “**Doing God’s Will**” (Matthew 28:19-20)

Matthew 28:19-20 <sup>19</sup> “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

## II. The Beginning Of The Church (Acts 2:1-3)

Acts 2:1-3 <sup>1</sup> “When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.”

**Definition:** The baptism with the Holy Spirit is the supernatural act of God by which Christ **immerses** believers with the Holy Spirit, **joining** them to Himself and to other Christians.



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### III. The Activities Of The Church (Acts 2:42-47)

Acts 2:42-44; 46-47 <sup>42</sup> “They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. <sup>43</sup> Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common. <sup>46</sup> Day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.”

#### Four Components Of A Winning Church

**Worship** (Psalm 34:3)

**Instruction** (Acts 2:42)

**Nourishment** (Acts 2:42)

**Sharing** (Acts 2:47)

### IV. Our Responsibilities To The Church (Hebrews 10:24-25)

A. My Responsibility to **Join** the Church (1 Corinthians 12:27)

B. My Responsibility to **Attend** the Church (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Hebrews 10:24-25 <sup>24</sup> “Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, <sup>25</sup> not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.”



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### C. My Responsibility to Serve in the Church (1 Peter 4:10)

1 Peter 4:10 “As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.”

### D. My Responsibility to Give to the Church (Malachi 3:10; Acts 2:37)

Conclusion