



## LESSON 5: THE CHURCH - GOD'S PLAN

Having a personal relationship with God is a high priority. Serving Him, along with other believers, is also important. For that reason, we must learn to make decisions based on what the Bible teaches about the church.

In the New Testament, the word “church” means an assembly that has come together. It refers to a group of people “set apart” by God for His purposes. The Church is not a building or a place, but a group of people; it is not a lifeless organization but a living organism.

### Description

The New Testament describes the character of the Church in different ways.

- To what is the church compared in these verses?
  - a) Acts 20:28 \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) Galatians 6:10 \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) Ephesians 1:22-23 \_\_\_\_\_.
  - d) 1 Peter 2:4-5 \_\_\_\_\_.

Read 1 Peter 2:9

- Write the four names that describe your new identity as a member of the church.
  
- What is the purpose of acquiring a new identity in God?  
“...that you may proclaim \_\_\_\_\_”.

### The New Testament Church

**Acts 2:42<sup>(RVC)</sup>** *...And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.*

- In verse 42, underline the four purposes for which the church members meet looking to grow spiritually.

## Purpose of the Church

Read Ephesians 4:12

- How are Christians helped in the church?

Read Hebrews 10:24-25

- What is God's command?
  
- What will you experience?

## Authorities in the Church

The words "elder", "bishop" and "pastor" refer to the same person.

Read Titus 1:5 and Acts 14:23

- Who were appointed in each church of every city?

Note that each church can have more than one pastor.

Read Acts 20:28

- Who appoints pastors in the church?
  
- For what purpose are they recognized?

Read Titus 1:6-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-7

- What are some characteristics that a pastor must have?

*Note: Pastors are appointed based on their spiritual growth and their character.*

- What is your responsibility towards the pastors?
  - a) Hebrews 13:7 \_\_\_\_\_.
  - b) Hebrews 13:17 \_\_\_\_\_.
  - c) Hebrews 13:18 \_\_\_\_\_.

God created the Church for us to have an environment to: grow in His knowledge, learn to obey Him, enjoy fellowship with other Christians, and make Him known throughout the world.

On this date, \_\_\_\_\_, I decide to fellowship with my brothers and sisters in the faith and serve in the church. I will do all this under the authority and care of the pastors that God has placed over me.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature



**Office for Latin America**

15190 SW 136th St, Suite 18

Miami, FL 33196 | USA

Tel: 305.232.5900

Fax: 305.677.0246

[www.greatcommissionla.com](http://www.greatcommissionla.com)

[www.igcla.com](http://www.igcla.com)