

## **FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS**

### **Lesson 10: THE IMPORTANCE OF FELLOWSHIP AND THE LOCAL CHURCH**

**Purpose:** To learn that God desires all His children to be a faithful member of a local church in order to receive the spiritual food and training we need so we can have balance in our life. God also wants every believer to learn they have a divine purpose of their life and that God desires to work through every believer to bring salvation and blessing to others.

#### **I. YOUR LOCAL CHURCH.**

**A.** All believers are a part of the universal church (Body of Christ), but the Bible commands us to be part of a local body of believers known as the local church.

**B.** Hebrews 10:25

#### **II. THE PURPOSE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH.**

**A.** The local church is where Christians fellowship together, encourage each other and serve the Lord together to build each other and the Kingdom of God.

1. Acts 2:42-47

**B.** The local church is where Christ develops and trains His disciples.

1. Ephesians 4: 8-16

2. The pastor is a gift, a spiritual ministry from Jesus to you as a member of the body of Christ.

#### **III. GOD HAS A PLACE FOR YOU.**

**A.** God has a place and a ministry for every believer to fulfill in the local church.

1. 1 Corinthians 12:12-28

2. Ephesians 4:11-12

3. 1 Peter 4:10-11

#### **IV. SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP AND BALANCE.**

**A.** Every Christian must be under the spiritual leadership of a pastor in order to receive balanced instruction in the truth of applying God's Word.

1. Acts 20:28-31

2. Ephesians 4:14-15

**Conclusion:** As a Christian we need to become a part of a local church and get involved with the meetings and activities of that church. Then we can receive

the spiritual care God has for us and find and follow God's divine purpose for our lives.

READING ASSIGNMENT: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

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COMPREHENSION TEST: For instructor with answers.

1. Every Christian is a part of what? Every Christian should also be a part of what? A local church.
2. In what way does Christ use the local church to build His Kingdom in the earth? Members receive training for the ministry God has called them to. As members begin to serve the Kingdom of God continues to be built.
3. What other benefits can be gained to being a part of a local church? The member can receive fellowship, encouragement, and grow.
4. Every Christian should be under the spiritual leadership of who in a local church? Why? In order to receive balanced instruction in the application of God's Word.

## **FIRST STEPS WITH JESUS**

### **Lesson 10: THE IMPORTANCE OF FELLOWSHIP AND THE LOCAL CHURCH**

COMPREHENSION TEST: For the new believer

1. Every Christian is a part of what? Every Christian should also be a part of what?
2. In what way does Christ use the local church to build His Kingdom in the earth?
3. What other benefits can be gained to being a part of a local church?
4. Every Christian should be under the spiritual leadership of who in a local church? Why?