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LIVING WORTHY OF THE LORD

Finale: Taking Communion in Communion

Learning to Be His Church...Together

Behold, I send you
forth as sheep in the
midst of wolves:
be ye therefore wise
as serpents, and
harmless as doves.
Matthew 10:16

BE INTENTIONAL!
BE STEADFAST!
BE HIS!

FAITH THAT WORKS

Faith Without Works
Does Not Work

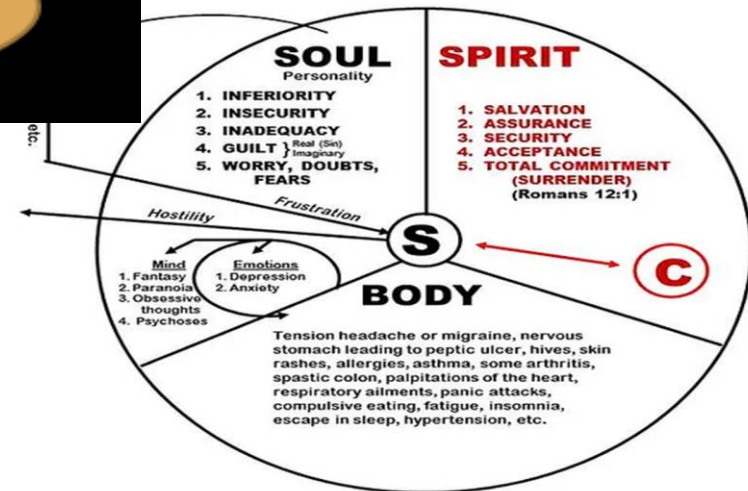
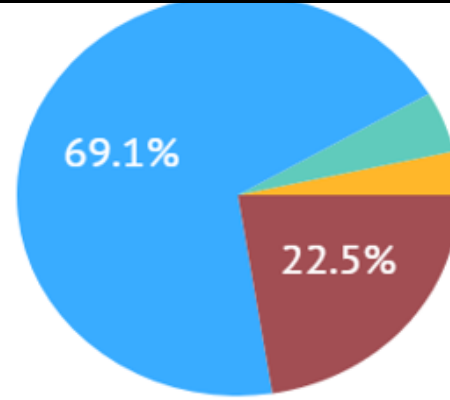
James 2:14-26

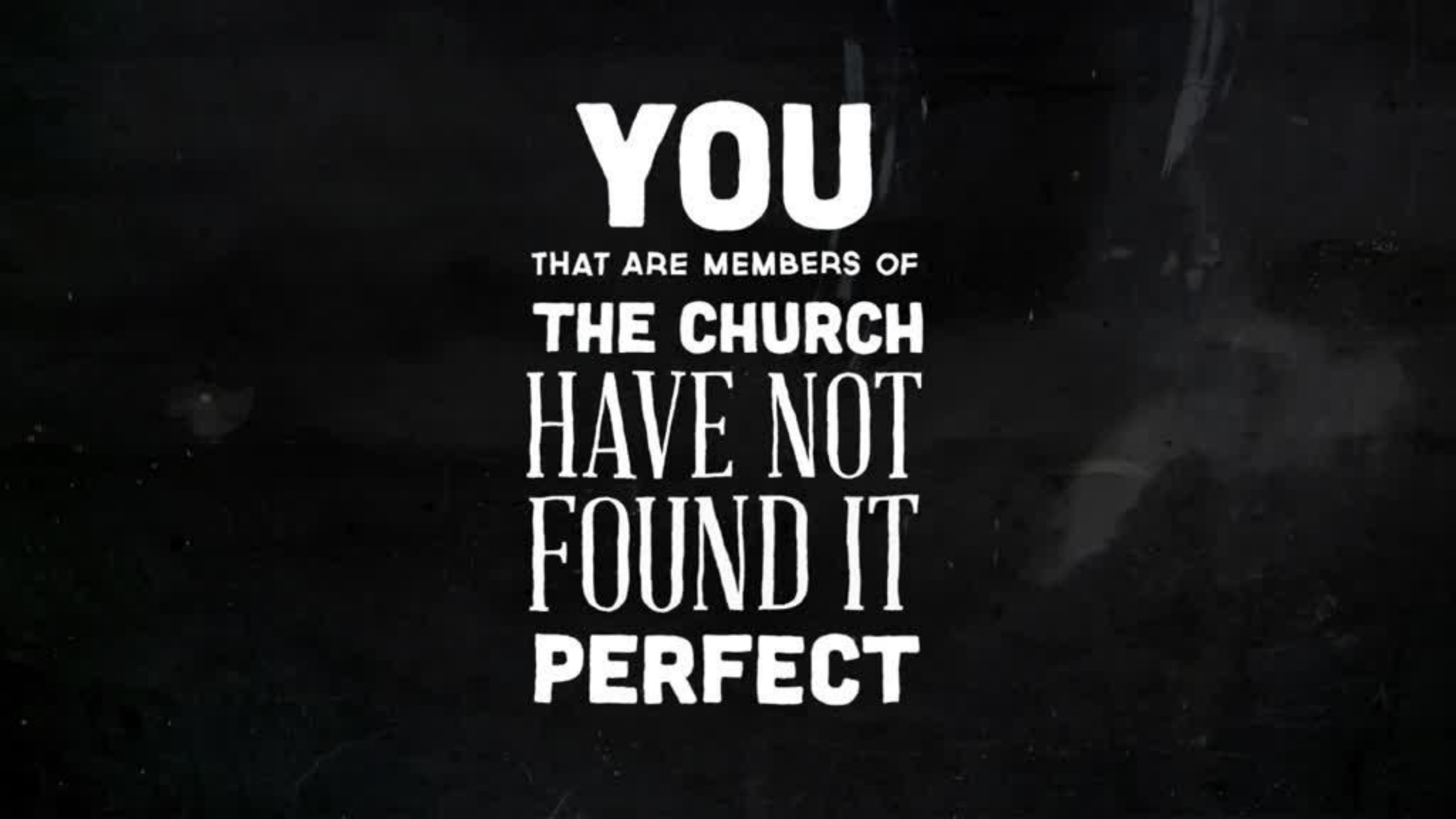


Put Off The Old Man And
Put On The New Man



CHAFF





YOU
THAT ARE MEMBERS OF
THE CHURCH
HAVE NOT
FOUND IT
PERFECT

TRUE FELLOWSHIP: BACK TO THE START

They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. And all the believers were together and had all things in common; and they would sell their property and possessions and share them with all, to the extent that anyone had need.

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, 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.

Acts 2:42-47 NASB

SIX EARMARKS OF HIS FOLLOWERS

- Koinonia – Fellowship, Unity in Community
- Didache – Teaching/Training in the Way of Christ
- Kerygma – Proclamation, witness (including martyria)
- Liturgia – Prayer and Worship
- Diakonia – Service within and without
- Dunamis – Power to be His witnesses/entrusted authority

Are These Present at the Threshing Floor?

INTENTIONAL, AUTHENTIC, HUMBLE, DISCIPLINED

You know this, my beloved brothers and sisters. Now everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; for a man's anger does not bring about the righteousness of God.

Therefore, **ridding yourselves of all filthiness** and **all that remains of wickedness**, in **humility** receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls.

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not just hearers who deceive themselves.

James 1:19–22 NASB

KOINONIA: MEMBERS OF ONE ANOTHER

Therefore, I say this and testify in the Lord: You should no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thoughts. They are darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them and because of the hardness of their hearts. They became callous and gave themselves over to promiscuity for the practice of every kind of impurity with a desire for more and more.

But that is not how you came to know Christ, assuming you heard about him and were taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus, to **take off, your former way of life, the old self** that is corrupted by deceitful desires, to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to **put on, the new self**, the one created according to God's likeness in righteousness and purity of the truth. Therefore, putting away lying, speak the truth, each one to his neighbor, **because we are members of one another.**

Ephesians 4:17–25 CSB

JESUS PRAYED FOR US BEFORE HE WENT UP!

“I pray not only for these, but also for those who believe in me through their word. May they all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us, so that the world may believe you sent me. I have given them the glory you have given me, so that they **may be one as we are one**. I am in them and you are in me, so that they may be made completely one, that the world may know you have sent me and have loved them as you have loved me.

“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, so that they will see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the world’s foundation. Righteous Father, the world has not known you. However, I have known you, and they have known that you sent me.

I made your name known to them and will continue to make it known, so that the love you have loved me with may be in them and I may be in them.”

John 17:20–26 CSB

HANDLE WITH THE UTMOST CARE

What you must solemnly realize is that every time you eat this bread and every time you drink this cup, you reenact in your words and actions the death of the Master. You will be drawn back to this meal again and again until the Master returns.

You must never let familiarity breed contempt.

Anyone who eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Master irreverently is like part of the crowd that jeered and spit on him at his death. Is that the kind of “remembrance” you want to be part of?

Examine your motives, test your heart, come to this meal in holy awe.

1 Corinthians 11:26–28 MSG

A SPIRITUAL MEAL – TAKEN THROUGH THE BODY

Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy way, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord. **But a person must examine himself, and in so doing he is to eat of the bread and drink of the cup.** For the one who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself if he does not properly recognize the body.

For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number are asleep. But if we judged ourselves rightly, we would not be judged. But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord so that we will not be condemned along with the world.

1 Corinthians 11:27–32 NASB

TO PROPERLY DISCERN THE BODY

“The Lord’s Supper is not just *any* meal; it is the meal, in which at a common table with one loaf and a common cup they proclaimed that through the death of Christ they were one body, the body of Christ; and therefore they are not just any group of sociologically diverse people who could keep those differences intact at this table.

Here they must “discern/recognize as distinct” the one body of Christ, of which they all are parts and in which they all are gifts to one another. To fail to discern the body in this way, by abusing those of lesser sociological status, is to incur God’s judgment.”

Gordon D. Fee

TAKE A LOOK AROUND BEFORE YOU PARTAKE

- We look **Backward**: What Jesus did for us!
- We look **Outward**: We celebrate our Christian family bond.
- We look **Upward**: We realize that we are seated with Him.
- We look **Inward**: We examine our hearts to ensure we're walking in *faith* and *repentance*, and dwelling in *forgiveness*.
- We look **Forward**: We anticipate the day He comes back for His Church, His Bride, His People!!

QUESTIONS FOR INNER-REFLECTION

- Have I turned from my sin and trusted in Jesus and His sacrificial death for me?
- Have I committed myself to Jesus and to His people where He has planted me?
- Am I currently walking in fellowship in Jesus and my flock?
- Have I forgiven those who have hurt me?
- Have I asked for forgiveness to those I have hurt?
- Have I been 100% honest with my God and myself?

BEFORE WE PARTAKE



- Examine Ourselves
- Come With Thanksgiving
- Come Like a Child
- Come Humbly
- Come to Rest

COME TO MAKE AN EXCHANGE

HIS LAST SUPPER & OUR NOW SUPPER

While they were eating, He took some bread, and after a blessing He broke it, and gave it to them, and said, “Take it; this is My body.”

And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He gave it to them, and they all drank from it. And He said to them, “This is My blood of the covenant, which is being poured out for many.

Truly I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine again, until that day when I drink it, new, in the kingdom of God.”

Mark 14:22–25 NASB