## **Understanding the Church – The Bible uses the term Church/Ekklesia [called –out] in two basic ways.** #1 The Whole Family of Believers in the World & #2 The Local Gather place of Believers- Pg. 98

**Jesus is the Owner and Builder of the Church!**

## **#1 - The Whole Family of Believers in the World**

* **Prophecy of Jesus** - Matthew 16:18 And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
* **O.T. prophecy** - Zechariah 6:12 And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD:
* **Bible Doctrine -** God builds all things - Hebrews 3:4 For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God.
* **We will talk more about this later…**

## **#2 The Local Church of Believers – Pg. 99 1 Peter**

* **God Ordains the Believers to Gather together.** Hebrews 10:25 “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
* **The Lord puts Leaders in every Church** - Act 14:23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.
* **The Lord God Almighty is the giver of all gifts –**Ephesians 4:8 wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. Ephesians 4:11-12 And He/Jesus gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:
* **The Lord calls the church to aim to FAITHFULNESS TO GOD!** – 2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

## **The Body of the Lord Jesus Christ – Pg. 100**

1. **God put your Human Body together well, He puts Us in the Hid Body well too.**

* Romans 12:4-5 For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

1. **God gave your Body one Brian/Authority to choose – Jesus is the Brain/Authority over His Body!**

* Ephesians 1:22-23 And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.
* Col 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.

1. **God puts together to grow in the Lord Jesus Christ.**

* Ephesians 4:15-16 But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.
* Growth comes when we are honest about our sins and struggles.
* Growth comes when we are looking to Jesus as our Authority.
* Growth comes when we are unity to do God’s will.
* Quotes – Every man, women or child who is in our churches should be set to work for the Lord. Charles Spurgeon

## **The Family of God in Jesus Christ. Pg. 101**

1. **We are Pure Children of a loving God** - 1 John 3:1-2 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. 1Jo 3:3 And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure.

* **God sees you as Chidlren because He loves You!**

1. **We are God’s Spiritual Property** - 1Peter 2:5-6 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

* **God is building you up the way He wants you to be**!
* **What are you doing with what God has given you**? Let’s Pray!