

REASON TO HOPE

the what & why of our faith
The Church: The Ultimate Community

Cascade Community Church

August 19, 2018



" Simon Peter answered and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.'"

Matthew 16:16-18 (NKJV)



“We believe in the universal church, a living spiritual body of which Christ is the Head and all born again persons are members. We believe in the local church, consisting of a community of believers in Jesus Christ, who have been baptized by immersion subsequent to profession of their faith in Christ, and who are associated for worship, work, and fellowship. We believe that God has laid upon the members of the local church the primary task of giving the gospel of Jesus Christ to a lost world.”

***-Cascade Community Church
Statement of Faith, Section 8***



Outline

I. The Church is a United Body



Outline

I. The Church is a United Body

A. A Universal Body



“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²²in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

-Ephesians 2:19-22(NKJV)



“But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name...”

-John 1:12 (NKJV)



Outline

I. The Church is a United Body

A. A Universal Body

B. A Local Body



"For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. ¹⁴ For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God which are in Judea in Christ Jesus. For you also suffered the same things from your own countrymen, just as they did from the Judeans..."

-1 Thess. 2:13-14 (NKJV)



"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

-Ephesians 4:4-6 (NKJV)



“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.”

-Ephesians 5:25-27 (NKJV)



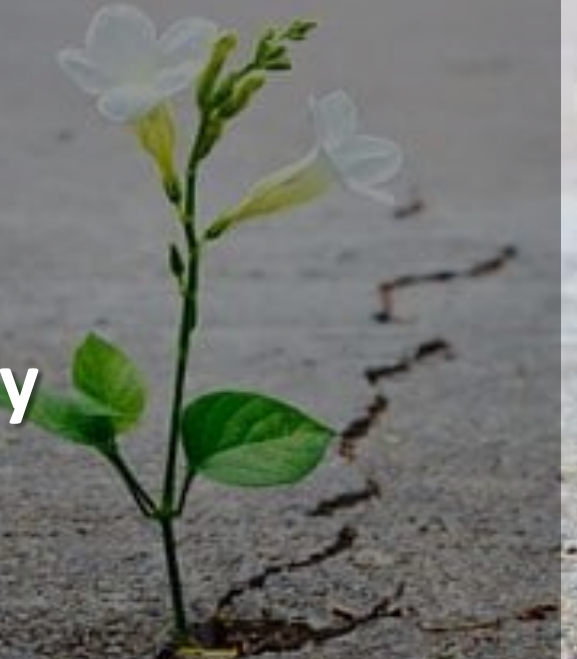
Outline

I. The Church is a United Body

A. A Universal Body

B. A Local Body

II. The Church is a Redeemed Body



“Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious. Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

-1 Peter 2:1-5 (NKJV)



"We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love the brethren. He who does not love his brother abides in death. Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him."

-1 John 3:14 (NKJV)



Outline

I. The Church is a United Body

A. A Universal Body

B. A Local Body

II. The Church is a Redeemed Body

III. The Church is a Working Body



"And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, 'All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Amen."

-Matthew 28:18-20 (NKJV)



“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?’ Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

- Matthew 22:36-40 (NKJV)



Outline

I. The Church is a United Body

A. A Universal Body

B. A Local Body

II. The Church is a Redeemed Body

III. The Church is a Working Body

A. Glorifying God



Outline

I. The Church is a United Body

- A. A Universal Body
- B. A Local Body

II. The Church is a Redeemed Body

III. The Church is a Working Body

- A. Glorifying God
- B. Making Disciples



Application

1. Be Connected to Christ



Application

1. Be Connected to Christ
2. Be Connected to Other Christians



Application

- 1. Be Connected to Christ**
- 2. Be Connected to Other Christians**
- 3. Be Committed to the Cause**



“So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”

- Romans 10:17 (NKJV)

