

Fairfield's One Church Weekend 2021 - What is Church? – Teaching Notes

Topics:

Session 1: 'The Temple of God' – 1 Peter 2:4-9; church as people of God; High Priests; Christ as Cornerstone.

Session 2: 'The Bride of Christ' – Ephesians 5:21-33; church as bride of Christ; God's love for us and headship over us; God's faithfulness to us and our faithfulness/unfaithfulness to Him.

Session 3: 'The True Vine & Branches' – John 15:1-17; church as branches attached to the true vine, fruitfulness through connection in Christ, essential to be in relationship/connected with God, faithfulness to God.

Session 4: 'The Body of Christ' - 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; church as the body of Christ; focussing on Unity (partnership and order in the global and local Church) and Diversity (of resources, gifts & opportunities); culminating in a challenge to identify and use our gifts within and as part of God's united Church.

Questions Asked of these Passages & Answers Identified:

What is the Church?

- One united Church (global & local)
- People dependent on God
- People supporting on each other
- God's precious possession
- Loved by God
- Provided for by God
- Submitted to God & each other
- Led by God
- Connected to God

What is it for?

- To reveal God to humanity
- To bring Glory to God

What is it like?

- Holy Spirit empowered
- Holy
- Obedient to God
- United with Christ
- Loving
- Fruitful
- Diverse gifts & acts of service all equally valued

Underpinning the all the above traits and purposes of Church our connection with God and our connection with each other.

Questions for Us:

1. Are these things true of me?
2. Are they true of Fairfield Church?
3. Do we need to repent or make a change?

