

THE FIRST CHURCH

A Church Is a Church?

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone, Ephesians 2:20.

The lessons in this study will explore the meaning, origin, purpose and operation of the Lord's church.

Many people are members of institutions which call themselves churches. How, though, can you be sure the church you attend is a true church?

The first question you should ask is, who founded or started it? The Bible declares that the founder and head of every true church is Jesus.

1. Are all churches true churches? _____
(300 points)

2. Who founded the true church? _____
(300 points)

That's Him!

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world, John 1:29.

John the Baptist identified Jesus as the One for whom he had been preparing the way. Those who had been listening to John's preaching remembered that he had spoken of one who would come after him, one who would come from Heaven (John 3:31). John positively identified Jesus as the Son of God (John 1:34).

Many of the disciples of John began from that time to follow Jesus. They became the first members of the Lord's church. (See John 1:35-41.) Out of this group Jesus chose twelve to be apostles. He gave special duties and power to these men (Mark 3:14, 15).

1. What was John's message? (Matt. 3:2) _____

(300 points)

2. What did John call Jesus? (John 1:36) _____

(300 points)

3. Who were some of the first members of the Lord's church? _____

(300 points)

The Church That Jesus Built

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, Matthew 16:18.

It was during Jesus' earthly ministry that He established His church. He taught His disciples many things, then went to the cross to pay the final price for our sins. Therefore, the church existed before the day of Pentecost. The church meant so much to Jesus that He gave His blood for it (Acts 20:28).

A true New Testament church is one that believes and teaches the same things which Jesus taught. In the next few weeks we will be looking at what the Scriptures have to say about the church that Jesus built.

1. Read Matthew 16:18 and Ephesians 2:19, 20. On what "rock" did Jesus build His church? _____

(300 points)

2. Read John 1:35-41. Who were two of the first men to follow Jesus?

(300 points)

3. A true New Testament church is one that _____

(400 points)

Date _____ Flight Leader _____ Points _____

SCRIPTURES FOR MEMORY

Mark 1:17

And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of men.

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.

Ephesians 2:19, 20

Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God;

And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

Date _____ Flight Leader _____ Points _____

SUNDAY MORNING SERMON NOTES

Speaker _____ **Date** _____

Title _____ **Text** _____

Main Points

Date _____ **Flight Leader** _____ **Points** _____

SUNDAY EVENING SERMON NOTES

Speaker _____ **Date** _____

Title _____ **Text** _____

Main Points

Date _____ **Flight Leader** _____ **Points** _____

WEEKLY PRAYER NOTES

Week of _____ through _____

Prayer for unsaved people: _____

Prayer for ill people: _____

Prayers of praise: _____

WEEKLY VISITATION AGENDA

Visits to prospects and friends:

_____	_____
Name	Date
_____	_____
Name	Date
_____	_____
Name	Date
_____	_____
Name	Date

Visits to elderly and ill:

_____	_____
Name	Date
_____	_____
Name	Date
_____	_____
Name	Date

Date _____ **Flight Leader** _____ **Points** _____

(Maximum 1,000 Christian Service Opportunity Points)