

The Gentleness of Christ: Being a Gentle Church
(Galatians 5:22-23, Ephesians 4:2; Philippians 4:5; Colossians 3:12)
Quench Life Christian Fellowship
Sunday, September 20, 2026
Pastor Robert L. Scott, Jr.

A. What is a _____?

Church - *ekklēsia*, (ek-klay-see'-ah) **a calling out**, i.e. a popular meeting, especially a religious congregation (Jewish synagogue, or Christian community of members on earth or saints in heaven or both):—assembly, church (*James Strong, A Concise Dictionary of the Words in the Greek Testament and The Hebrew Bible*)

Church - **A group or assembly of persons called together for a particular purpose.** The term appears only twice in the Gospels (Mt 16:18; 18:17) but frequently in the Book of Acts, most of the letters of Paul, as well as most of the remaining NT writings, especially the Revelation of John. (*Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible*)

Matthew 16:18 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. NKJV

John 17:4-8, 12, 18-19 I have brought you glory on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began. ⁶ "I have revealed you to those whom you gave me out of the world. They were yours; you gave them to me and they have obeyed your word. ⁷ Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. ⁸ For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. ¹² While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled. ¹⁸ As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. ¹⁹ For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified. NIV

B. How can a _____ of _____ be a _____ Church?

1. A body of believers must be _____ .

Ephesians 5:27 He died so that he could give the church to himself like a bride in all her beauty. He died so that the church could be pure and without fault, with no evil or sin or any other wrong thing in it. NCV

Matthew 18:15-19 "If your fellow believer sins against you, go and tell him in private what he did wrong. If he listens to you, you have helped that person to be your brother or sister again. ¹⁶ But if he refuses to listen, go to him again and take one or two other people with you. 'Every case may be proved by two or three witnesses.' ¹⁷ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen to the church, then treat him like a person who does not believe in God or like a tax collector. ¹⁸ "I tell you the truth, the things you don't allow on earth will be the things God does not allow. And the things you allow on earth will be the things that God allows. ¹⁹ "Also, I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about something

and pray for it, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ **This is true because if two or three people come together in my name, I am there with them.**" NCV

2. A body of believers must _____.

Galatians 5:19-26 **The acts of the flesh are obvious:** sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that **those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.** ²² **But the fruit of the Spirit is** love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ **gentleness** and self-control. Against such things there is no law. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ **Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.** ²⁶ **Let us not become conceited, provoking and envying each other.** NIV

3. A body of believers must be _____.

Ephesians 4:1-6 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, **I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling** you have received. ² **Be completely humble and gentle;** be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ **Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.** ⁴ There is **one body** and **one Spirit**, just as you were called to **one hope** when you were called; ⁵ **one Lord, one faith, one baptism;** ⁶ **one God and Father** of all, who is over all and through all and in all. NIV

4. A body of believers should be _____ for _____.

Philippians 4:4-7 **Rejoice in the Lord always.** I will say it again: **Rejoice!** ⁵ **Let your gentleness be evident to all.** The Lord is near. ⁶ **Do not be anxious about anything,** but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. NIV

5. A body of believers must not _____.

Colossians 3:5-14 **Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature:** sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these, the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ **You used to walk in these ways,** in the life you once lived. ⁸ **But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips.** ⁹ Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices ¹⁰ and **have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator.** ¹¹ Here there is no Gentile or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all. ¹² **Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with** compassion, kindness, humility, **gentleness** and patience. ¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. **Forgive as the Lord forgave you.** ¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. NIV