

WELCOME

PHOENIX

INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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# Announcements!

## **THIS WEEK**

**Tomorrow's Sunday Services** by House Church

**NEXT Sunday's Leaders Meeting** 2:30PM – Persecution. (10/1)

**Tagging today**, 1:30pm Rural & University

- Goal is 30% of missions in by end of this month. 50% by end of October!

**NEXT Saturday 9/30**, 9AM Blood Drive @ Wal-Mart off Pima Road.

**(See: [phxicc.org/events](http://phxicc.org/events) AND [phxicc.org/yearly](http://phxicc.org/yearly))**

# Miraculous Gifts of The Holy Spirit: QUIZ

1. Write out **Hebrews 13:17**
2. What books are before and after Jude?
3. What two scriptures discuss the types of the Miraculous Gifts of the Holy Spirit?
4. What are the three types of laying on hands?
5. What were the two purposes of the Miraculous Gifts? (The bible fulfills these needs now.)

## **BONUS**

In what **book & chapter** does the Bible illustrate that only the Apostles can pass the gifts of the Holy Spirit by laying on their hands, but those who have received the Miraculous Gifts could not pass them on? Please briefly **explain**.

# Miraculous Gifts of The Holy Spirit

## Answers

1. Write out **Hebrews 13:17**

*Obey your leaders and submit to their authority. They keep watch over you as men who must give an account. Obey them so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no advantage to you.*

2. What books are before and after Jude?

Before: **3<sup>rd</sup> John**, After: **Revelation**

# Miraculous Gifts of The Holy Spirit

## Answers

3. What two scriptures discuss the types of the Miraculous Gifts of the Holy Spirit?

**(1 Corinthians 12:8-10, Mark 16:16-18)**

4. What are the three kinds of laying on hands?

1. Blessing (Acts 13:3)

2. Healing ( Acts 9:17-18, Acts 28)

3. Passing of the Miraculous Gifts (Acts 8:18)

# Miraculous Gifts of The Holy Spirit

5. What were the two purposes of the Miraculous Gifts?
  1. To get non-believers to believe (tongues were only to be used to bring non-believers to faith.)
  2. To edify the Christians and strengthen their faith.

*Now the Bible fulfills these needs-thus the church today does not need apostles or miraculous gifts.*

# Miraculous Gifts of The Holy Spirit

## Answers - BONUS

**BONUS:** In what chapter does the Bible illustrate that only the Apostles can pass the gifts of the Holy Spirit by laying on their hands, but those who have received the Miraculous Gifts could not pass them on? Please explain.

- **Chapter:** Acts 8
- **Explanation:** Because Philip had been given the Miraculous gifts yet Simon the Sorcerer did not ask **him** for the gifts, because he saw they were given only by the apostles laying on of hands. **(Acts 8:18-19)**

# First Principles 2017

Session 10:  
The Church

**PHENIX**  
INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH



# The Church

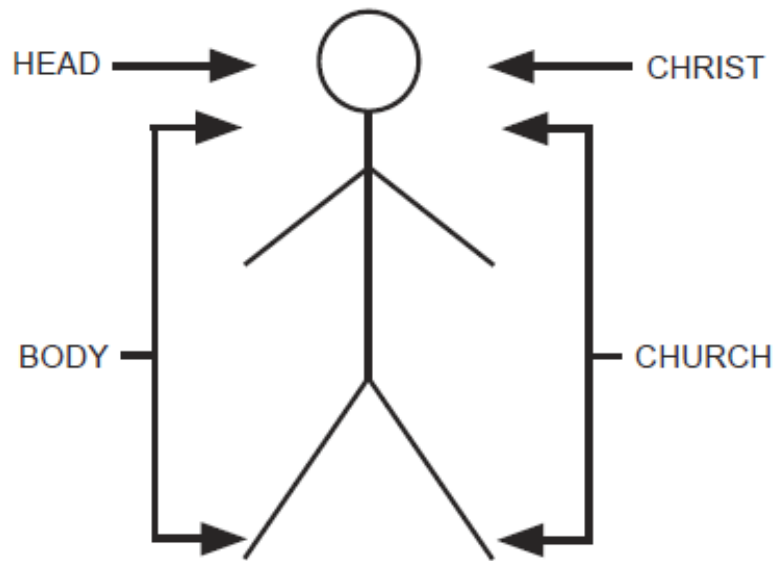
## Introduction

- To teach about the church in the scriptures is a sacred honor.
- If we present anything about God's church in a boring way, it is sin.
- This is the final study in our first principles series.
- By this time you should see a tremendous change in our friend "Leroy" who the young fired-up disciple "Toby" met going after selling car wash tickets!
  - Prayerfully, you'll be just like our fired-up disciple "Toby" and meet a friend named "Leroy" because you to are obedient to the Holy Spirit Indwelling in you and Jesus' call to "***make disciples of all nations!***"
- **2 Tim 3:12-13**
  - Very early on in the studies, as a church, we need to cover this critical truth - if you want to live a Godly life in Christ Jesus, if you want to be a true disciple, you are going to get persecuted.
  - **NEXT Sunday's** leaders meeting (10/1) will be a special First Principle's session (+2 extra-credit) covering Persecution!

# The Church

Introduction – REMINDER: **Persecution**, study it out!

- Very early on, study persecution out.
  - Right after **“Seeking God”** or **“The Word of God”** are good places! Definitely after **“Discipleship!”**
  - The persecution study teaches about how Jesus was persecuted by his family, by religious authorities, and by the public at large.
  - If someone does not understand they are not a disciple, and that they are not saved, FP may be too much for them – this is for members who are learning how to teach others.
- And now we are going to study out **“The Church.”**
  - This study should take about an hour. I like to plan two, so we can talk a little before and after.



## 1.) Col 1:15-18

Analogy:

Church = Human Being  
Head = Christ

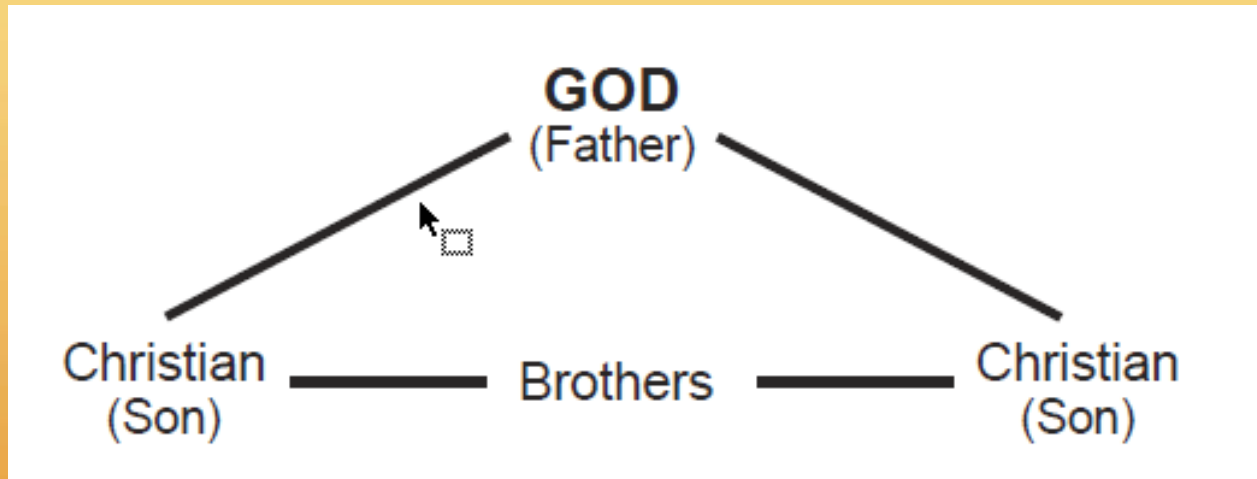
Body = Church

***Christianity was meant for the head & the body to be together!***

- Incredible scripture about Jesus being God in the flesh.
- Jesus is the head of all things, **including his church.**
- **Bumper sticker:** "Jesus yes, the church no."
  - Rebellion trickled down to our generation...people think they don't need the church.
- Jesus is the head of the church body. I like head/body attached.

***Anyone who is not part of a church is not being a Christian according to God. The church is essential to Christianity!***

## 2.) Ephesians 2:19-22



- Two analogies here in this passage for the church!
- The 1<sup>st</sup>, a household (another word? Family!)
- The 2<sup>nd</sup>, compares it to the temple of God.
  - All the disciples are a part of God's temple, God's church, built to the glory of God.
- Verse 19 – The Church is God's household, which is God's family!

# 1 Cor 12:12-13 & Romans 6:3-4

## 1 Corinthian 12:12-13

- How is one typically added to a family? **Born** into it.
- **Born** again? God becomes father, makes us brothers.
- Baptized *into* the body, the church.

## Romans 6:3-4

*Each of the studies in the first principles class, they are built upon each other. Talked about this concept in depth (Romans 6)*

- Paul is writing to the church in Rome, those who were already baptized disciples and reminding them that baptism is not just a symbol, but you participate *spiritually* in the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ at your baptism!

# Romans 6:3-4 (Continued)

- **Die with Christ spiritually. Actual spiritual death.** Share in his death, come in **contact with his blood**, buried with him, raised to a new life.
- **Why a new life? All your sins have been forgiven.** Starting over.
- **Baptized into one body** with Christ as the head, and the body of Christ, God's family.
  - Amy and I have two amazing children. Paisley loves her little brother Dimitry very much. Love to see her give him kisses. It's awesome. Why? They have the same father.
  - Everyone else - made that radical decision, they get the same Father. Born again of the water and the Spirit - baptism.
- **The point that we are baptized** is the point when we become a son or daughter of God and become part of the family of God, and thus **members of the church.**

## 3.) Ephesians 2:20

- **The church** is the **body of Christ** and the **family of God**.
- **The church** is also a *spiritual* building, a **holy temple!**
  - The **Corner stone** is first stone laid into the ground in which all other stones are laid out according to.
  - Jesus is the "**Corner stone.**"
- What is the **foundation of the church?**
  - The apostles (NT) and prophets (OT)!
  - **The (Entire) WORD of GOD.**

## **4. Why there are so many denominations – divisions?**

There are **well over 450** different denominations in the USA alone! (Some say 1000's!)

***What church is God calling us to be a part of - that's the one we want to be a part of.***

A. The Bible teaches that there is one church.

- 1. Ephesians 4:4-6 – one body**
- 2. Romans 12:4-5 – one body**
- 3. 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 – one body**



# B. Divisions in Christendom are either of Satan or of God.

## When is it of Satan?

### **1 Cor 1:10-13 (Personalities)**

No divisions in the body, following personalities or their teachings / writings that are *contrary* to the word of God.

### **Matthew 15:3-9 (Traditions)**

When we follow teachings of men that contradict the word of God we might as well not do it at all. Only as open minded as the bible is. Conviction we are following the WORD of God and let it decide. Don't let men's teaching that contradict the word pull us aside.

1. Nullify
2. Hypocrite
3. Pay God lip service.
4. Hearts far away from God
5. Worship is in vain. Not do it at all!

# When is it (division) of God?

**Luke 12:50-53 (When aligning oneself with the WORD causes it)**

- Jesus says that he came to bring division, and that division would be based on the Word of God and would cause intense conflict.
- Inspiring family members becoming disciples!
  - Kristin Smith, both her little sister and her older sister persecuted her at first!

# When is it (division) of God?

**Ironically - division is sometimes necessary to bring true unity between God's people!**

**John 10:19-21**

- When Jesus preached he always divided people into **two groups**: Those who **opposed him** vs. those who **obeyed** him.
- The Jews called themselves God's people and yet:
  - Those who **opposed Jesus** said Jesus was demon-possessed & raving mad!
  - Name calling and character assassination.
  - That's How they tried to undermine Jesus' teaching.
- This church is being charged with being divisive.
  - Divisive in a sinful way, pulling people away from the truth?
  - Or are we being like Jesus and taking a stand?

**Division can be of Satan, or be of God.**

**Jesus divided people to the truth – we must be like Jesus!**

# Major historical divisions in Christendom (overview)

- Some divisions came from those who took a stand on God's Word – of God.
  - And these divisions divided people that called themselves "God's people."
- Some divisions were satanic, men doing what they want to do.

# 1. Through the centuries the church was corrupted by traditions of men...

- When the church begins in the 1st century it's pure.
- By the 2nd and 3rd centuries false doctrines begin infiltrating the church.
- Infant baptism, original sin, perpetual virginity of Mary, papal infallibility, priests as clergy...
- In the OT – the priests ministered between God and God's people. 1 Peter 2:9 Priesthood of believers. Every disciple is a priest. Mediators between God and the lost. There is no clergy/laity according to the bible!
- This becomes the **Catholic Church**.
- Constantine, makes the church the standard religion of the Roman empire. Constantinople.

# 1. Through the centuries the church was corrupted by traditions of men...

- In 364 AD the Roman Empire is split into two parts. This division leads to a split in Christianity – the eastern portion becomes **Eastern Orthodox Church** and the western part becomes the **Roman Catholic Church**.
- Practices diverge, for example – Orthodox has married priests, Roman Catholic priests are celibate.
- The “Great Schism” occurs in 1054 AD, as the leaders of “each church” excommunicate each other.

## 2. 1500's Reformation Movement

- Martin Luther (Lutheran Church) He takes a stand against the Roman Catholic Church on these convictions: Bible authority over church authority, salvation by faith not works, and the priesthood of all believers, yet still baptizes infants.
- Other noted reformers were **John Calvin** (Presbyterian Church), **Ulrich Zwingli** and **Conrad Grebel** (Anabaptists)
  - Anabaptists were heavily persecuted by Catholics and some reformers, because of their stand for adult baptism.
- Henry VIII (Anglican Church / Church of England)
  - He breaks from the Catholic Church over his right to divorce his wife.
  - He appoints himself head of the church.
  - Later in the United States, the Anglican Church becomes the Episcopalian Church, since members will not follow the king of England.

# 3. 1700's Great Awakening Movement

- John and Leroy Wesley (Methodist Church)  
Followers divide from Church of England over:
  - Personal transforming decision for Christ
  - Not state religion
  - High accountability of members
  - Preaching to the “unchurched”
    - Why? Born in England? Born into the church!

***Sadly, they also practiced infant baptism.***



# 4. 1800's Restoration Movement

- **Alexander Campbell** and **Barton Stone** (Mainline Church of Christ and Conservative Christian Church) Take a stand against both Catholic and Protestant doctrines of salvation. They preach to be saved one must:
  - have personal faith in Christ
  - repentance and *adult* baptism (immersion) for the forgiveness of sin to receive the Holy Spirit.
- In reaction to Catholicism, their congregations are autonomous – “self-governing.”
- 1906 is the formal split between Mainline Church of Christ, which is non-instrumental, and the Conservative Christian Church, which is instrumental.

Joseph Smith (Mormon Church) divides from Restoration Movement in 1830 over “new revelation” – the Book of Mormon.

- People thought the bible was written in the King James English.
- The bible was written in language of the people of that time. Koine Greek
- This "New Revelation" of God - was written in "King James English"

# 5. 1967 Crossroads Movement

(AKA Total Commitment Movement) Controversial, though never departing from the Mainline Church of Christ, the Crossroads Church near the University of Florida pioneers (1) evangelizing the secular campuses of United States, (2) “counting the cost” with each person that desires to be baptized, and (3) the shepherding of new converts.

- In the 80's died on out. 1972, 1973 Kip and Elena baptized. Both decided to go into the ministry and produced powerful campus ministries training with these principles.
- Sadly those they trained would go back and face lukewarm or dead adults in the congregations. Became clear - ***you cannot pour new wine into old wineskins.*** Kip in 1979 Begins the Boston movement.

# 6. 1979 Boston Movement

## (International Church of Christ)

Kip McKean – Baptized at the University of Florida in 1972, divides from Mainline Churches of Christ and Crossroads Movement over:

1. Bible Church not just New Testament Church
2. only (baptized) disciples are true Christians
3. each and every member of church must be a disciple
4. each member should be in discipling relationships
5. vision to evangelize the nations in a generation
6. the planting of new churches to achieve this vision
7. central leadership not autonomous congregations
8. the role of women.

In 2002, the International Churches of Christ return to a more Mainline Church of Christ theology – each congregation becomes autonomous (self-governing), calling a central leadership and the vision to evangelize the nations in a generation “unbiblical.” Around the world, thousands fall-away.

# 7. 2006 SoldOut Movement

(Portland Movement / International Christian Church)

Begins in Portland, Oregon as a revival movement within the International Churches of Christ. The International Church of Christ separates from the SoldOut Movement, because of the new movement's stand on these convictions:

1. Bible Church not just New Testament Church
2. only disciples are true Christians
3. each and every member of church must be a disciple
4. each member should be in discipling relationships
5. vision to evangelize the nations in a generation
6. the planting of new churches to achieve this vision
7. central leadership not autonomous congregations
8. the role of women.

**We are in a movement - we are going to impact the whole world.**

May 6th marked the Ninth Anniversary of the Inaugural Service of the City of Angels International Christian Church! With just 42 sold-out disciples from Portland joined by the 12 in the remnant group in Los Angeles, God has multiplied this courageous church over these past nine years into almost 5,000 disciples, in 66 churches, in 33 nations on all six populated continents of the world! Truly, this is not a movement of men but it is indeed the modern day movement of God!

# 5. What is the “one church?”

- A. Acts 11:25-26 Church = Disciples = Christians
  - **Church Universal.** Every faithful disciple in the world - that is the one body.
  - At this time, not all of those people (**in the Church Universal**) are in the same fellowship.
- B. A local congregation is called the “visible church.”
  - Local visible church is built with only disciples.
  - In the first century, all the “visible churches” made up the “church universal.” However, since so many “visible churches” have departed from true doctrine and because all sold-out baptized disciples are not in one fellowship, we should strive to be a member of a local congregation.

## **C. The Greek word for church & D. Several Names for the church**

**C. The Greek word for church is “ekklesia” which means “assembly” or “called out.”**

- “Ek” meaning “out” and “kaleo” meaning “to call.”
- To be a disciple is to be “called out” from the world. Therefore, the church in the Bible was the “assembly” of the “called out.”

**D. There are several names in the Bible for God’s Church:**

Disciples, Christians, Church of God, Church of Christ, The Way, Church of the Firstborn, Saints, etc... Since we are free to choose any name for

- our fellowship, since our fellowship goes around the world, and because our churches are composed
- of only sold-out disciples, we call ourselves the “International Christian Church.”

# 6. What distinguishes the International Christian Churches?

(What separates or “divides” us from main stream Christendom?)

**A. We believe God physically resurrected Jesus from the dead.**

**B. We believe the Bible is inspired by God and is our sole authority.** Therefore, since we have not departed (divided) from the truth, we consider ourselves non-denominational.

**C. We are a Bible Church, not simply a New Testament Church.**  
**2 Timothy 3:14-17**

The context of the word “Scripture” is referring to the Old Testament. We believe the Old Testament applies to our lives – as much as the New Testament – except for the Mosaic Law and any teaching in the New Testament that supersedes the Old Testament. (Example: grounds for divorce)



## 6. What distinguishes the International Christian Churches? (Continued)

**D. We believe – as in the book of Acts – the visible church should be composed of only sold-out baptized disciples.**

**E. “Be silent where the Bible speaks, and speak where the Bible is silent.”** In applying Scriptural principles to build the visible church, we believe we must obey God’s Word, but where the Bible does not prohibit a practice or name, we are free to use our God-given creativity.

**Genesis 2:19** (Examples: The principles for “Bible Talks,” “Lead Evangelist,” “Discipleship Partners” and “Regions” are in the Scriptures, though these terms are not. However, nowhere are they prohibited. Also, instrumental music [Psalms!] and paid Women’s Ministry Leaders are not prohibited in the Scriptures.)

## 6. What distinguishes the International Christian Churches? (Continued)

**F. We believe in a Central Leadership.** Throughout God's Word, when His people were unified, there was a strong central leadership and godly central leader. (Examples: Moses, Joshua, David and of course Jesus and the Apostles)

**1 Corinthians 4:15-17** and **Titus 1:5** teach that local congregations had an overseeing evangelist, who unified the disciples "everywhere in every church." In the first century, congregations were a collective movement – not autonomous, not self-governing.

- Very bold. Imitate me and all your problems will go away. Because I am following Christ. I can't come. Sending timothy, because he imitates me.
- One of leadership's primary purpose, unify.
- People get married, God says, one of you are to be leader. It's supposed to be the man. If everyone did what they want to do...autonomous, self-governing...imagine what family life would be like?
- Leadership, unity, fellowship, every church, every where.

## 6. What distinguishes the International Christian Churches? (Continued)

**G. Matthew 28:19-20 Our vision – the evangelization of all nations in this generation – will be accomplished through every disciple making disciples and every disciple having discipling relationships.**

- Jesus is the savior of the world. Does God want to overlook a part of the world?
- Command to go to all nations. The mission of God's church.

# 7. 1 Corinthians 12:14-27

A. We need the body. The body needs us. (v. 14-20)

- If we are all visionary...eyeballs...sticky stuff...rolling around the fellowship.
- Some of us are hands. Arms. Muscles.
- Some of us are the feet. Fired up about every bodies difference.
- So many differences...all united...why? Jesus Christ is the most important thing in all our life!

B. Be involved on a relationship level in the church. (v. 26)

- Cut my foot with Machete – whole body responded!
- How we need to be with one another!

# 8. Hebrews 10:23-25

## A. Do not miss church.

- The bible says quite clearly...as some are in the habit of doing. Why come?

## B. The fellowship helps us to be unswerving in our commitment. (v. 23)

- Ever driven with someone who swerves?

## C. Another purpose of fellowship is to encourage each other so we will remain faithful. (v. 24)

- Don't need the church, don't need all that encouragement!?
- The reason we come is not all about us. A lot of times we need it. Sometimes we GIVE it.
- Bottom line, we are there

## D. Must come to all meetings of the body: Sunday and Midweek Services, Bible Talks, special devotionals, Jubilees, retreats, etc... Begin to rearrange schedule to come to all the meetings of the body.

# 9. Contribution

- A. Malachi 3:6-12** Do not rob God in your tithes and offerings. Tithing is the guideline of our sacrifice on Sundays to meet the ministry needs. Benevolent offerings are given at Midweek Services.
- Many disciples are trying to find God's church.
  - This is what he is talking about. Return to me, and I will return to you.
  - You have been robbing me. Tithes and offerings.
  - In the congregation - in the OT, it was a command to tithe. In the NT, no direct command to tithe. There is strong precedence for it. (Hebrews 6:20 - 7:10, Genesis 14:17-20)
  - On your tithe, envelopes, have more integrity, to give consistently! Pledge card helps with this.

# 9. Contribution (Continued)

**B. 2 Corinthians 9:6-8** Giving should be from a “cheerful” heart – not under compulsion.

**C.** God blesses you when you sacrifice.

- Cheerful - "hilarious" givers. Major pain. God wants us to give generously.
- Why? We believe we are building his temple, his church, the family of God, God is going to spread this new movement, all around the nations in this generation...
- We are privileged and honored to be a part of God's movement in this generation!

# Know for the FINAL Quiz!

- The two diagrams associated with **Colossians 1:15-18** and **Ephesians 2:19-21!**
- Know the scriptures and points covered in the church study.
- Know at least three of the historic divisions with a key personality and detail.
- Know what separates or distinguishes the International Christian Churches.