

Does Membership Matter?



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Church – _____
 Ekklesia - “Called out” of sin, Matt. 16.18; Col. 1.13 | Body of Christ, Acts 2.41, 47; 1 Cor. 12.13; Col. 1.18, 24; Eph. 4.4 | Membership is _____ | A person _____ join the church universal, for _____ the Lord can add him to the church, His body

Church – _____
 Throughout the book of Acts and the epistles early Christians _____ together to establish local churches, 1 Cor. 1.2; Rom. 16.16 | These local churches in the first century were _____, _____ units, Acts 8.1; 13.1; Rom. 16.1; 1 Cor. 1.2; 1 Cor. 16.19; Gal. 1.2, 22; Col. 4.16; Thess. 1.1; 2.14; 2 Thess. 1.1; Rev. 2.1, 8; 2.12, 18; 3.1, 7, 14 | A local church _____ of saints with the bishops and deacons, Phil. 1.1; Eph. 4.11-12 | Members: A group of _____ people in a certain area who meet, work, and worship _____

The question follows though, if the Lord automatically adds one to His Church, is one automatically added to the local church?

Christians Are To _____ Themselves To A Local Church
 _____ Saul went he _____ himself as part of the local church in that area | Saul was _____ of the church in Jerusalem and Antioch, Acts 9.26-28 | He made _____ his desire to be joined to the local church | He “tried to join the disciples” | He _____ and _____ worked with the church | He was “with them coming in and going out” | He assisted in the teaching | Antioch, Acts 11.26; 13.1-3: He was “in the church” & _____ a whole year

One _____ try to join; but the local church has a _____ to _____ fellowship | The church “did not believe that he was a _____” | A local church is not _____ to automatically receive into fellowship _____ who request membership | Membership in the local church is by _____ agreement among Christians

We are _____ to _____ fellowship with Christians engaged in immorality, Eph. 5.11; Rom. 16.17-18; 1 Cor. 5.1-2, 7, 11, 13; 2 John 9-11
 One must only be _____ as a member if he is a _____ disciple, Acts 9.26 | When the _____ is produced that the person is a faithful disciple, the church _____ receive them, 3 John 9-11 | Then he was welcomed & “*he was with them*” Acts 9.28

The brethren in Ephesus _____ for Apollos, Acts 18.27 | When first century saints moved from town to town, they sought to identify themselves with the local saints: Acts 9.26; 11.26-27; 18.27; Rom. 16.1-2 | If they were part of the _____, they were a part of a _____ church.

Is Local Church Membership _____?
 Can one just “come and go” as they please without joining a particular congregation and being held accountable?
 Assemble for _____, Acts 9.28; 13.1; 20.32 | to _____ with the Lord & proclaim His death, 1 Cor. 10.16; 11.26 | to _____ money to support the work, 1 Cor. 16.1-2 | _____, 1 Cor. 5.4 | Every part (member) of the body does its _____, Eph. 4.16

If you aren’t a member of Northside, won’t you join us today?

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