

---

March 12, 2017

Our church is committed to the multiplication of gospel-centered churches for the good of our region and world.

*I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory. 1 Timothy 3:14–16 (ESV)*

---

## 1. Why does the local church matter?

*if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. 1 Timothy 3:15 (ESV)*

### 1. The local church is God's family.

- A family gives me encouragement and support.

*Do not rebuke an older man but encourage him as you would a father, younger men as brothers, older women as mothers, younger women as sisters, in all purity. 1 Timothy 5:1–2 (ESV)*

- A family provides help in time of need.

- A family goes out of the way to keep unity.
- A family has your back.

### 2. The local church is where God dwells.

*...which is the church of the living God...*

*In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit. Ephesians 2:22 (ESV)*

### 3. The local church is the pillar and buttress of the truth.

*...not greedy for dishonest gain... 1 Timothy 3:8 (ESV)*

## 2. What must the local church believe?

*...He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory. 1 Timothy 3:16 (ESV)*

*For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 1 Corinthians 2:2 (ESV)*

### 1. Christmas and Easter are historical facts.

*Jesus was manifested in the flesh and vindicated by the Spirit...*

*who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. Philippians 2:6–7 (ESV)*

*For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, Colossians 2:9 (ESV)*

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies... Romans 8:11 (ESV)*

### 2. The work of Jesus was for the entire world and the universe.

*...seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations...*

And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, "Let all God's angels worship him." Hebrews 1:6 (ESV)

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." Mark 16:15–16 (ESV)

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, Revelation 5:9 (ESV)

### 3. The proper response to Jesus is belief and worship.

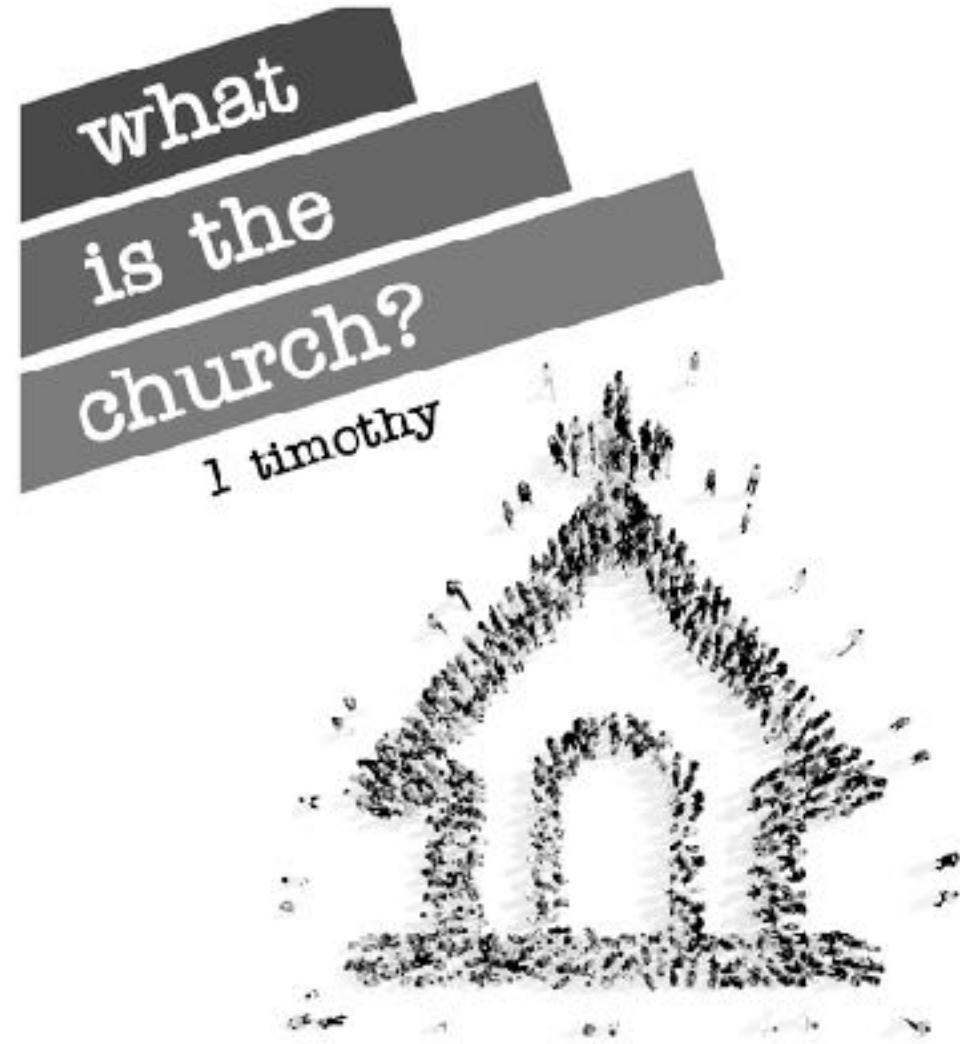
...believed on in the world and taken up into glory...

### 3. Why is it important how members of the local church behave?

"I am writing to you... so that one may know how one ought to behave in the household of God..."

1. How we respond after we sin is just as important as walking away from sin.
  
2. Secret of godliness is found in Jesus, not myself.

### Conclusion



## 1 Timothy 3:14-16

### Why Does The Local Church Matter?