

CALLED TO BE SAINTS **TOGETHER**

The Message of 1st Corinthians

1 Corinthians 1:1-3 (ESV)

¹ Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes, ²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

How should we think of “**church**”?

It’s not _____ church. It’s not _____ church. It’s _____ church.

What we are called to _____ and _____ because we belong to Jesus (1 Cor. 6:19-20) and because God’s Spirit lives in us (2:12)

_____ when we become believers and how we display God to the world.

Something _____ and more important than our own local congregation.

An important implication in these verses ...

The Church is ...

Founded by Jesus Christ (Matthew 6:18) and built by Jesus (Matthew 16:18)

Purchased with His blood (Acts 20:28)

Intimately identified with Christ (Acts 9:4)

Christ’s body (Eph. 1:23, 4:12, 5:23-32, Col 1:18,24, 3:15, I Cor. 12:12-27)

The dwelling place of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 8:9,11,16, 1 Cor. 3:16-17, 6:11,15-17, Eph. 2:18,22, 4:4)

And the chief instrument for bringing God glory in the world bringing the Gospel to the nations! (Eph. 1:12, 3:12, 1 Peter 4:14, Rev. 5:9)

Why we need church **TOGETHER** ...

Because _____

"... all the members of the body ... are one body"

Because of _____

Enemies of sanctification:

Because of _____

"In but not of" isn't easy if ...

Because I need _____

Not many "spiritual fathers"

Because I have _____

Because I was _____ (w/others)

"When you come together ..."

Because _____ is experienced and expressed here

Because God's _____ depend upon it