



DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

The best thing I have ever done on social media is... Or, one thing I miss about phones with dials and cords is...

1. If someone at your job, gym, school, team, community center, neighborhood etc. had something to say about “the church,” what would it sound like, in your experience?
2. How does hearing who founded the church and how He referenced it affect your attitude towards it? ([Matthew 16:18](#), [Acts 2:41](#), [Ephesians 1:22-23](#), [1 Peter 5:2](#))
3. [Ephesians 2:22](#) refers to Jesus followers being the dwelling place of God by His Holy Spirit. We know the church is the people, not a building, so how does this differ from what you thought about the church, or what society says about it?
4. Read [Ephesians 5:25-27, 32](#). How does this passage help you see the value and attitude God has about His church?
5. When you apply Jesus’ standard of genuine faith ([John 13:34-35](#)), how do you feel about your faith, and are there changes in attitudes or actions that you need to start making this week?
6. We certainly fall short too often, but this does not negate the church’s value and eternal impact. How can you, personally, live out Jesus’ intention for His church to be a genuine light in dark places, reaching lost people with the news of the gospel?

Day One: [Matthew 23](#)

Day Two: [Genesis 23](#)

Day Three: [1 Corinthians 7](#)

Day Four: [James 1](#)

Day Five: [Job 23](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner’s Bible Reading System.

PERSONAL GUIDE



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



Your story matters.

MYTHUNDERSTANDING

PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN

APRIL 24, 2022

MYRC.CHURCH



"FAKE NEWS? (PART 1)"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

One of the biggest _____ of fake news (from a variety of sources) is the Christian Church and Jesus followers.

So, is there anything _____ with the Church?

...there are 2 incredible sources available to any honest person that tell us what is positive, _____, and beautiful about the Church: God's Word and _____ data.

1. What _____ Thinks of the Church

- A. Jesus is actually the first one to use the term _____ (note [Matthew 16:18; 18:17](#)) - also note [Acts 2:41](#). Church = ekklesia = _____ ones...assembly. A group of people called out of the _____ and to God...always refers to _____.
- B. _____ of Christ (note [Ephesians 1:22-23; 1 Corinthians 12:27](#)).
- C. God's _____ (note [1 Peter 5:2](#))
- D. _____ of God (note [Acts 20:28](#)).
- E. Household of God/church of the living God/_____ and foundation of the truth (note [1 Timothy 3:15](#)).
- F. Church of the _____ (note [Hebrews 12:23](#)).
- G. God's _____/God's building (note [1 Corinthians 3:9](#)).
- H. _____ place of God (note [Ephesians 2:22](#)).
- I. Citizens and members of God's _____ (note [Ephesians 2:19](#)).
- J. _____ of God (note [Galatians 6:16](#)).
- K. _____ stones/spiritual house (note [1 Peter 2:4-5](#)).
- L. God's _____ (note [1 Corinthians 3:16-17](#)... and also note [1 Corinthians 6:19](#)).

M. _____ of Christ ([Revelation 19:7; 21:9; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:25-27, 32](#)).

There are 3 institutions that God has _____ and established:

- Family
- _____
- Church

Note [Matthew 22:23-33](#) and [Revelation 11:15b](#)

What lasts _____ is the Church.

And so important and valuable is Jesus' Church that the standard, the _____ of whether or not our faith is genuine is do we _____ those who Jesus has rescued/saved/forgiven/adopted, or not? (Note [John 13:35; 1 John 3:14; 4:20-21](#))

MYTHUNDERSTANDINGS:

- This matters so much because when Jesus followers and Jesus' Church gets attacked, _____, and criticized, often with false information and fake news, we need to always have at the forefront of our minds that Jesus loves the Church, that His eternal purposes and plan has the Church at the heart of it all, and when the USA, China, Russia, NATO, European Union, Wall Street, Hollywood, and Big Tech no longer exist... Jesus' Church will not simply exist, but will be the _____ of eternity.
- Note [3 John 9-10](#)
- But human failures do not _____ Jesus' design, purpose, and plan for His Church, and despite human and spiritual enemies within and outside of Jesus' Church for 2,000 years, His Church in 2022 is larger and impacting positively more lives, families, and even nations than ever before; and not even _____ itself can hold back its advance (note [Matthew 16:18](#)).

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey! Let us know too by filling out a connect card (digital* or hard copy).

*[MyRC.link/connect](#) or text **riverside** to **94000**



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"FAKE NEWS? (PART 1)"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

One of the biggest targets of *fake news* (from a variety of sources) is the Christian Church and Jesus followers.

So, is there anything right with the Church?

...there are 2 incredible sources available to any honest person that tell us what is positive, healthy, and beautiful about the Church: God's Word and factual data.

1. What Jesus Thinks of the Church

- A. Jesus is actually the first one to use the term church (note [Matthew 16:18; 18:17](#)) - also note [Acts 2:41](#). Church = ekklesia = called out ones...assembly. A group of people called out of the world and to God...always refers to people.
- B. Body of Christ (note [Ephesians 1:22-23](#); [1 Corinthians 12:27](#)).
- C. God's flock (note [1 Peter 5:2](#))
- D. Church of God (note [Acts 20:28](#)).
- E. Household of God/church of the living God/pillar and foundation of the truth (note [1 Timothy 3:15](#)).
- F. Church of the firstborn (note [Hebrews 12:23](#)).
- G. God's field/God's building (note [1 Corinthians 3:9](#)).
- H. Dwelling place of God (note [Ephesians 2:22](#)).
- I. Citizens and members of God's family (note [Ephesians 2:19](#)).
- J. Israel of God (note [Galatians 6:16](#)).
- K. Living stones/spiritual house (note [1 Peter 2:4-5](#)).
- L. God's temple (note [1 Corinthians 3:16-17](#)... and also note [1 Corinthians 6:19](#)).
- M. Bride of Christ ([Revelation 19:7](#); [21:9](#); [2 Corinthians 11:2](#); [Ephesians 5:25-27, 32](#)).

There are 3 institutions that God has created and established:

- Family
- Government
- Church

Note [Matthew 22:23-33](#) and [Revelation 11:15b](#)

What lasts forever is the Church.

And so important and valuable is Jesus' Church that the standard, the measurement of whether or not our faith is genuine is do we love those who Jesus has rescued/saved/forgiven/adopted, or not?

(Note [John 13:35](#); [1 John 3:14](#); [4:20-21](#))

MYTHUNDERSTANDINGS:

- This matters so much because when Jesus followers and Jesus' Church gets attacked, maligned, and criticized, often with false information and *fake news*, we need to always have at the forefront of our minds that Jesus loves the Church, that His eternal purposes and plan has the Church at the heart of it all, and when the USA, China, Russia, NATO, European Union, Wall Street, Hollywood, and Big Tech no longer exist... Jesus' Church will not simply exist, but will be the centerpiece of eternity.
- Note [3 John 9-10](#)
- But human failures do not negate Jesus' design, purpose, and plan for His Church, and despite human and spiritual enemies within and outside of Jesus' Church for 2,000 years, His Church in 2022 is larger and impacting positively more lives, families, and even nations than ever before; and not even hell itself can hold back its advance (note [Matthew 16:18](#)).

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