

STUDY QUESTIONS CONT'D

9. How does one become a member of the body of Christ?
10. Are you a part of the body of Christ? If not, read below.

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL?

The word “gospel” means “good news.” The Gospel, or good news, of Jesus Christ is that He did what no one could ever do. You see, God loves us, but ever since Adam and Eve sinned against God, every human being has sinned and therefore cannot come into God’s presence because He is holy and perfect. As much as we try, we cannot bridge the gap to God because of our sinful nature. We can never be good enough to reach God. Good works, religion, philosophy and morality all fall short of God’s perfection.

God loves us so much that He sent His Own Son, Jesus Christ, to bridge the gap (John 3:16). Jesus did what no one else could ever do, because He is both God and human, born to Mary. He took upon Himself the punishment we deserve, dying on the cross in our place. Now, through a relationship with Jesus Christ, we can come before a holy God. That is the good news! We enter a relationship with Jesus by placing our faith and trust in Him and Him alone for our salvation. Do you have a relationship with Jesus Christ?

The good news doesn’t end there. Not only can we have eternal life through Jesus, but we also now can live without being condemned because of sin. Jesus paid the price for our sins, and He lives within those who have placed their trust in Him. In Christ, not only have we secured our future in eternity with God, but we have the Holy Spirit living in us to help us today to live for Christ. For more information on how to know God, check our website at www.gbcmilescity.com.



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Small Group Study Guide
Pastor Jerry Coon – October 29, 2017

SERMON NOTES

The Church THE BODY OF CHRIST

1. The Body Is Under New Ownership

(1Cor. 6:19, 20) “....do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price, therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit which are God’s.”

2. The Price:

(1Pet. 1:19) “...the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”

(Rom. 12:1-2) As a part of His body we are to “present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.”

- “a living sacrifice” a constant – continuous sacrifice – not just occasional.
- one that sacrifices its own desires and lives for God by serving Him.
- and it is the believers “reasonable service” The most rational, intelligent and logical act of the believer’s mind used in serving and worshipping our Head, who is Christ Jesus.

THE CHURCH IS THE FAMILY OF CHRIST

1. Christ, The Head Of The Church

(Eph. 1:22) And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church

(Col. 2:9-10) For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily; and you are complete in Him, who is the head of all principality and power.

SERMON NOTES

The Believer – The body is one body in Christ

(Rom. 12:4-5) ⁴ *For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.*

2. Christ Is To Have Preeminence In The Church

(Col. 1:18) ¹⁸ *And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.*

- He was before all things (eternal) (v. 16-18)
- He is the firstborn from the dead (v. 18)
- His resurrection proves His deity (v. 18)
- His resurrection is a sign of His authority

3. Christ Has Made Peace For The Church

(Col. 1:20) *and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

- Through His Blood (Col. 1:20)
- Through His Blood (1Pet. 1:18-19) *knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.*

4. Christ Presents The Church Perfect In Heaven

(Col. 1:21-22) *And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—*

STUDY QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think the human body is used to describe the Church?
2. Based on this comparison, who is really in charge of the true Church, the body of believers?
3. Is one member of the body of Christ more important than another? Why or why not?
4. **What exactly is a living sacrifice? Isn't that a contradiction of terms?**
5. How do Christians today become living sacrifices?
6. **What is meant by "reasonable service?"**
7. Which member of the human body best describes your part of the Church?
8. When there is fighting among believers, how does that affect the body?

Continued Next Page