



Ekklesia = Church

- a gathering of citizens called out from their homes into some public place; an assembly
- any gathering or throng of men assembled by chance or tumultuously (Acts 19:32, 39, 41)
- an assembly of Christians gathered for worship (1 Cor. 11:18; 14:19, 34, 35)
- **A company of Christians** (Acts 5:11; Acts 8:3; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Corinthians 6:4; Philippians 4:15; 3 John 1:6; Acts 8:1; Acts 11:22; Romans 16:1; 1 Corinthians 4:17; 1 Corinthians 6:4; Revelation 2:1, 8)

Ephesians 4:15-16

but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, even Christ,¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

1) To Worship

- A. "To Hold Fast the Confession of Our Faith" (Hebrews 10:23; 1 Tim. 4:1-2)
 - 1) Endurance is key to Christianity (James 1:2-4,12; Heb. 10:36)
 - 2) Faithfulness is key to Christianity (Prov. 3:1-5)

Proverbs 3:1-5 (ESV)

My son, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments, ²for length of days and years of life and peace they will add to you. ³Let not steadfast love and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck; write them on the tablet of your heart. ⁴So you will find favor and good success in the sight of God and man. ⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

1) To Worship

- B. "To Stir Up Love And Good Works" (Hebrews 10:24-25)
 - 1) Let us consider one another. (Rom 12:10)
 - 2) Vs. 25 – "exhorting one another"



1) To Worship

- C. To Continue "Steadfastly in the Apostles Doctrine" (Acts 2:41-42)
 - 1) Assembling is not a spectator event
 - 2) Failing to continue could lead to spiritual death (Heb. 10:26-27)



2) Outside of Worship



Ephesians 4:15-16

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2) Outside of Worship

A. For Study

- 1) Each Christian needs to personally grow (2 Tim. 2:15)
- 2) Each Christian needs to keep error out (Acts 17:11)
- 3) Each Christian needs to be a light (Rom. 12:2)



B. For Encouragement

- 1) God instructs us to be there for one another (1 Thess. 5:9-11, 14-15)
- 2) To show love (1 Peter 4:8-10; John 13:35)
- 3) To help sharpen one another
"Iron sharpens iron, So one man sharpens another." (Prov. 27:17)



3) Excuses

- A. "There is nothing there I cannot get studying at home."
- B. "I'm too busy."
- C. "Too many hypocrites"
- D. "I don't want to see brother/sister..."

