

The Other Family We Don't Get To Choose

WHY YOU'LL NEVER FIND THE PERFECT CHURCH

WHY THE LOCAL CHURCH IS GOD'S PLAN "A" And Why There Is No Plan "B"

- Defining this thing called a "Church"

Matthew 16:18/ 1 Corinthians 11:17-18

- What makes a local church so important?

1 Corinthians 12:27 & Ephesians 1:22-23/ 1 Timothy 3:15/ Romans 12:10-21/ Hebrews 10:24-25

It functions as the body of Christ

It's the pillar & foundation of the truth

It provides the lab for learning how to live like Jesus

It provides godly peer pressure

STAYING ON MISSION

How To Keep A Good Church From Going Bad

Matthew 28:18-20

- ① Reach out & recruit new followers of Jesus

Matthew 9:10-12/ 1 Corinthians 9:19-27/ Matthew 4:23-25

- ② Teach people how to live the Christian life

1 John 2:3-5/ Ephesians 4:17-32

- ③ Deploy people into kingdom ministry

1 Corinthians 12:7/ 1 Peter 4:10-11/ 2 Corinthians 5:12

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It functions as the _____

It's the _____

It provides the _____

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Food for Thought

For the week of June 6, 2010

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. This weekend Larry mentioned that there are over 30 "one another" commands in the New Testament that are nearly impossible to fulfill without being in relationship with other people. Here are a few of them. After reading each verse below, identify the "one another" command in each one.

John 13:34-35

Ephesians 4:32

Romans 12:10

Ephesians 5:21

Romans 12:16

Colossians 3:9

Romans 14:13

1 Thessalonians 5:15

Romans 15:7

Hebrews 3:13

Romans 15:14

Hebrews 10:24

Colossians 3:16

Hebrews 10:25

1 Corinthians 12:25

James 4:11

Galatians 5:13

James 5:16

Looking back on these verses as a whole, what general observations can you make about them?

Which one or two of them do you sense the need to work on in your life right now?

2. We heard this weekend that the church is the body of Christ, a living organism made up of a variety of people each with a role to play. In Ephesians 4:1-16, the Apostle Paul captures the balance between the unity we share as the body of Christ and the diversity we have as members with differing gifts.

What does Paul say is the goal of the unity in diversity that he writes about in this passage?

What do you see as your part in helping North Coast become mature?