

Church

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Many words in the Bible have been misused, abused and misunderstood. "Church" is one of those words. What does the word church mean?

How It's Used Today

Incorrectly: A building or cathedral
 A Denomination or Sect

Biblically: Worldwide, Matthew 16:18
 A Gathering of the people, 1 Cor. 11:8
 A People who gather to worship, 1 Cor. 1:1

If you asked a Christian in Bible days "What church do you belong to?" they would respond with location (Corinth, Jerusalem). Today people would answer with their denomination.

The Word for Church: EKKLESIA

From Athens: Means assembly of the chosen. Only certain citizens who owned property and were willing to serve in the military were allowed to have a say in the affairs of the state.

Rewards: Great opportunities

Responsibilities: Great cost and duties

What is the Church?

It's the people God has added to his body

Acts 2:47, Ephesians 2:20, 1 Peter 2:4-8

It's the relationship God has designed

Ephesians 5:25, Acts 20:28, Colossians 1:18

It's the community he has created

1 Corinthians 3:11, Hebrews 10:24-25, Galatians 6:1

It's the plan he has enacted

Ephesians 3:10-11, Matthew 16:18, Daniel 2:44