

2023 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



In-Person

A background image of a church interior with people sitting in pews, overlaid with a blue and yellow wavy graphic.

CHURCH
MATTERS

WATTS CHAPEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
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REV. DR. HARRY L. WHITE, JR., SENIOR PASTOR



JUNE

12-14

6:30 PM



Insight on Church Membership

10 Ways to Support Your Church

1. Attend regularly.
2. Give generously.
3. Love radically.
4. Bring others consistently.
5. Volunteer joyfully.
6. Share Jesus willingly.
7. Fellowship purposely.
8. Show up energetically.
9. Pray fervently.
10. Encourage faithfully.

How to Kill a Church

1. Don't evangelize.
2. Regularly criticize leaders.
3. Attend services infrequently.
4. Refuse to volunteer.
5. Neglect the youth.
6. Complain more than encourage.
7. Stop taking the Bible seriously.
8. Value personal preferences over the soul.

**Don't just attend your church — Love your church.
Serve, give, invite, worship, post, join, engage, participate!**

Monday, June 12 Day One

Lesson Aim:

Having participated in the lesson, participants should understand the importance and significance of the church.

1. **Read Deuteronomy 7:6 and 1 Peter 2:9.** What did Almighty God envision for the church?

2. **Read Matthew 16:18.** How did Jesus establish the church?

3. **Read 1 Corinthians 12:13.** How did/does the Holy Spirit empower the church?

4. **Read Matthew 16:18, Acts 15:14, and Ephesians 3:3-6.** What is the church? What is the meaning of the word “church”? What does it mean that the church is a “called out” community?

5. **Read 1 Peter 2:9-10.** What is the universal church?

6. **Read 1 Corinthians 1:2 and Philippians 1:1.** What is the local church?

Discussion Questions:

- The church is similar to _____.
- How is the church different from other social organizations, non-profit organizations, and charitable organizations?
- List five to seven reasons the local church is essential and significant.
- Why do you think the church matters?

* The *universal church* is the body of Jesus' followers on earth at any time that transcends boundaries.

* The *local church* is a visible fellowship of believers gathered in a specific location.

Tuesday, June 13 Day Two

Lesson Aim:

Having participated in this lesson, participants should understand the nature and dynamics of the church.

1. **Read Colossians 1:18 and 1 Corinthians 3:11.** Who is the head/foundation of the church? Why is this important?

2. **Read Acts 2:41-47.** What does the local church provide? Discuss why it is important for the church to instruct, fellowship, do ministry, and worship.

3. **Read Romans 6:3-7, Colossians 2:11-12.** Why is it important for the church to baptize new believers?

4. **Read 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.** Why is it important for the church to observe the Lord's Supper?

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5. **Read Romans 12:4-5, Ephesians 2:19-22, and Revelation 19:6-9.** How is the church like a body, a building, and a bride? What lessons do you glean from that image of the church?

6. **Read Acts 2:38, Acts 4:12, Matthew 28:16-20, and John 3:5-8.** What is the message of the local church?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What should be important to the church?
- What do you look for in a church? Why?
- What are the qualities of a healthy, strong church?
- How do you demonstrate that church life is important to you?

Wednesday, June 14 Day Three

Lesson Aim:

Having participated in this lesson, participants should understand that every Christian should be committed to a local church.

1. **Read Hebrews 10:24-25.** What are the benefits of church members fellowshiping/worshipping together?

2. **Read Malachi 3:8-12.** Why is it important for local church members to be cheerful/faithful tithers and givers?

3. **Read Colossians 4:2.** How can local church members offer prayer support for the church, its leaders, and its members?

4. **Read Romans 12:4-8.** Why is it important for church members to use their abilities, gifts, and talents to develop and grow the church?

5. **Read Mark 12:28-34.** Practically, how can church members live by the Great Commandments?

6. **Read Romans 12:1.** Why must church members live a God-fearing, above-reproach lifestyle?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Why should Christians be connected to a local church family?
- What blessings/benefits have you experienced because you are connected to a local church?
- How would you describe your relationship with the local church?
- What abilities, life experiences, talents, and spiritual gifts do you possess that can bless the church?