



The Church - 2014 Series
Calvary Baptist Church
PART II: The Church and You
Text for Part II: Acts 2:42
Sermon 2B: A Place of Involvement
September 21, 2014



I. A Place of Instruction - "Doctrine" (Acts 2:42; 6:1-2)

- A. The church is the place where God has placed gifted leaders to love me, guide me and watch over me.
- B. The church is a place where I find help in keeping my life in conformity to the Word of God and the will of God.

II. A Place of Involvement "Fellowship" (partnership) (Heb. 10:25; Acts 2:42)

QUOTE: Meaning either "to **have** a share in" or "to **give** a share in." It means to be an **active** part of something. Having fellowship with Christ doesn't just mean being part of His family. It means that He is actively involved with us, that we are actively sharing in the day-to-day affairs of His business ... and that we are actively **sharing** in the lives of other Christians. *Compact Guide to the Christian Life*

So the church is a place of:

Relationship – **belonging** to each other and sharing our life in Christ.

Communication – sharing what God is **teaching** us, encouraging each other to go forward with their faith.

Partnership – standing side-by-side in the **business** of God's kingdom.

Support – where those who are abundantly blessed help those who are in **lean** times. It is where we care for each other.

- A. The church allows me, as just one **person**, to become part of something much **greater!**

FITLY FRAMED TOGETHER (Eph. 2:19-22)

YE ARE BUILDED TOGETHER (Eph. 2:19-22)

To build together with others or out of **varied** materials. *RWP*

- We are fellow citizens with the saints. We belong **together**.
- We are individual parts, fitted together by **God** into a body.
- We are **joined** to one another.
- We are the individual tiles in God's beautiful **mosaic!**

FITLY JOINED TOGETHER (Eph. 4:15-16) To fit together in a coherent and **compatible** manner. To be **joined** together. *Louw and Nida*

COMPACTED (Eph. 4:15-16) *sumbibazo* –To **press** together.

NOTE SEVERAL TRUTHS IN EPHESIANS 4:15-16 (Cf., Col. 2:19)

1. The church is a place where we may hear the truth in love. It is a place of **confrontation** with truth, but it is a place where the motivation for this is love.
2. Christ is the **head** of the church and He is actively working to unite the body.
3. The members of the body of Christ have been placed together and joined together to make of the sum total of the parts **one** whole.
4. If I am not fully connected, joined with the rest of the body, then I do not fit the pattern and purpose of **Christ** for the church.
5. There is no such thing as a **passive** member of the body. Each member of the body is to work.
6. We do not please God when we **dabble** at our task. The work is to be done effectually.
7. When each member of the body does his part, the whole body is **built** up.

B. The church is the place where my gifts, talents, abilities, and resources, may be pooled together with other believers to unite in carrying out the Great **Commission. (Mt. 18:19,20; Acts 1:8A; Eph. 4:11-12)**

- As we will see, the minister is to **train** the believer and **equip** him/her to do the work of the ministry. (Eph. 4:11-12)

C. The church is the place that allows me to connect with the great **missionary sending agency of God. (Acts 1:8 full; Acts 13:2; 2 Cor. 8:1)**

- If I am to fulfill God's command, I must **unite** with others to do it!
- For those of us who do not **go**, there is another call, the great call to **give**.
- The good news is that God has a **plan** for the Good News!
- There is only a little that **I** can do, but when I partner with the church there is much that **WE** can do!