

Two primary words translated church:

OLD TESTAMENT: qahal (pronounced caw-hail)

Meaning: Assembly, congregation, gathering.

NEW TESTAMENT: ekklēsia

Meaning: literally "called out ones" | common usage - assembly

The CAPITAL-C Church is: the universal church, the church of every believer, everywhere, in every age (Matthew 16:18)

The little-c church is:

Five things the **church** is NOT:

- + Brick and mortar
- + A social club
- + Social reform
- + An etertainment venue
- + An ATM

WHAT IS THE C.H.U.R.C.H.?

C - Christ's....

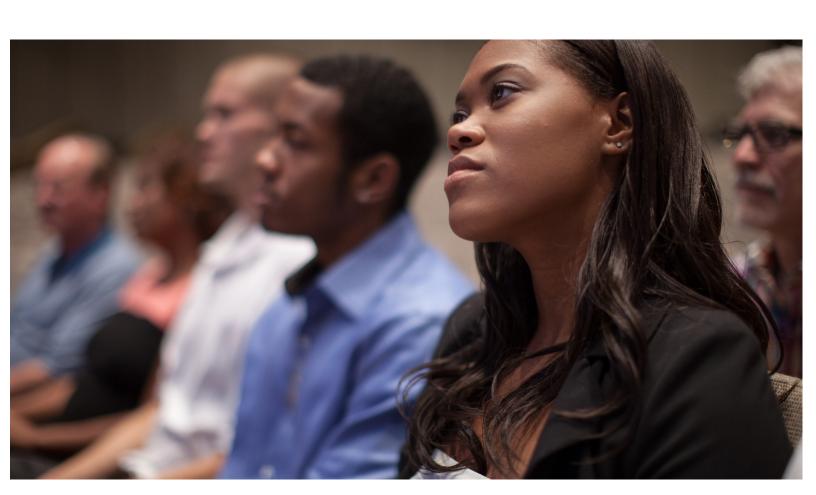
- + Christ's building
- + Christ's **body**
- + Christ's bride

NEED SOME
ENCOURAGEMENT? THE
CHURCH IS **NOT OUR CHURCH.**IT IS **HIS CHURCH,** AND HE HAS
PROMISED TO BUILD, SUSTAIN,
AND KEEP IT.

H - Holy (John 17:4, 13-19).

Four principles:

- 1. The church's goodness is not based on our own goodness (verse 4).
- 2. We must not **cheapen** the **holiness** of Christ (verse 14).
- 3. The church's **holiness** is **fueled** by **the truth** (verses 17-18).
- 4. Our holiness is rooted in Christ's holiness (verse 19).



U - United

Four things that draw us together

- + United in purpose
- + United in doctrine
- + United in worship
- + United in suffering

R - Redeemed (Ephesians 1)

Four crucial principles:

- 1. Christ is the **head** of the church (Ephesians 1:18).
- 2. We are no longer alienated from God (Ephesians 1:21).
- 3. We must be grounded in the hope of the gospel (Ephesians 1:23).
- 4. We are **servants** to the **gospel** (Ephesians 1: 23).

C - Commissioned (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15)

Simple observations:

- + We are responsible for the **delivery** (not the **decision**).
- + Every Christian has **a role** to **play**.
- + Conversion is a **starting point,** not a **destination.**
- + We bring people to Christ, not to ourselves.

H - ospital (Luke 5:31-32; Luke 4:16-20)

In Christ, the church is empowered to...

- · Proclaim good news.
- · Proclaim freedom to the prisoner.
- · Proclaim sight to the blind.
- · Set the **oppressed** free.
- · Proclaim ultimate healing.

AREN'T YOU GLAD TO BE PART OF CHRIST'S HOLY, UNITED, REDEEMED, COMMISSIONED HOSPITAL?

