

## What Paul Said About The Church #4

The fourth statement Paul made about the church is that it is the household of God (Ephesians 2:19). Those who were once alienated from God are now in His family. The term "*household*" refers to the family (Acts 16:15, 31-34; Hebrews 11:7). In 1 Timothy 3:15, the household of God is called the church of God. Every Christian is a part of this family (Roman 8:16-17) and they have a responsibility to obey God the Father (2 Corinthians 6:16-18; 1 Peter 1:14). This congregation ought to see itself not as individual family units, but as one aggregate whole. We work together, weep together, rejoice together, and grow together (Romans 12:10-16). Everyone ought to look for opportunities to bring their congregation closer together as a family.

The fifth and final statement is that Paul said the church is a saved body. Jesus Christ is the Savior of the body (Ephesians 5:23), and God cannot save outside the body (Acts 2:41, 46-47). On the day of judgment, if you are not a member of that body, then you cannot be saved. The writers of the New Testament continually affirmed that no one is saved and added to the Lord's church until they have been baptized (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:27; 1 Peter 3:21). Usually a preacher will tell people to accept Jesus as their Savior and then tell them to join the church of their choice. When the Ethiopian eunuch was baptized in Acts 8:32-37, the Lord added him to the church of His choice -- the church of Christ.

Revelation 2:10 says that you cannot go to heaven without obedience. If you are ready to obey the gospel and become a member of the Lord's church, please contact us.

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