

1. The local church is where God has chosen to place His presence and His name, and where He gathers His family.

6:16b, 18

The people who make up the local church together contain the presence of God. They are the temple of God.

The church is the people of God, created by His presence, living in relationship to Him, and existing for the purpose of glorifying / Him.



Am I in a relationship with other believers in which I contribute to and encounter God's presence in the world and work for God's purposes and glory?

2. The Church is to be the community that influences a corrupt, unbelieving, sinful world for Christ instead of being influenced by the world to be unlike Christ. 6:14-16, 17, 7:1

My identity and my alliance is derived from and given to God and His people, not to those who will lead me into darkness. 6:14

The church is given many promises in Christ. Christians avoid disqualifying themselves from these promises by turning away from the sin that corrupts and defiles their hearts, minds, bodies, and souls. 6:17, 7:1



Which of my associations define who I am? Am I persevering in Christ so I am not led astray by anyone or anything?

I invite you to belong to a local church where you will encounter the presence of God and help to manifest the presence of God to others.

I invite you to belong to a local church where you will find the relationships and encouragement to walk in Christ over the course of your life and not be led into darkness and sin.