

Instructions

This document is designed to be centered (right to left and top to bottom) on a 7x11 inch piece of paper.

To print this document in tract format, do the following:

1. Print page 2 of this document on an 8.5x11 inch sheet.
2. Trim 3/4 of an inch off the left and right sides. Your sheet should now be 7x11 inches.
2. Turn the page over and print page 3 so that the tract pages numbered 2 and 7 are directly on the back of 1 and 8 (see diagram below).
3. Fold the paper length-wise with the cover on the front.
4. Fold again along the width (the cover should now be on the front and page 8 should be on the back).
5. Staple twice along the spine (saddle staplers or long reach staplers can be purchased at office supply stores, but any standard stapler with at least a 4.5 inch throat should work as well). The staples need to be inserted so that the points are located inside the tract.
6. Trim the across the top of the tract using scissors, trim board, etc. so that it can be opened. Try to cut off no more that 1/8 of an inch; remember, you are just trimming the tract enough so it can be opened.

5	4
8	1 (Cover)

3	6
2	7

The Lord Himself stated the work of the church is to go into all the world to the rescue of lost souls. That is to:

Preach the gospel — (*Mark 16.15-16; 2 Corinthians 11.8*)

Edify itself — (*Ephesians 4.11-16; Galatians 6.1-2*)

Provide for its poor — (*Gal. 6.9-10; 1 Tim. 5.16*)

5

WORK

Communion (*Acts 20.7; 1 Cor. 10.16; 11.23-30*)

Preaching (*Acts 2.42; 20.7*)

Giving (*1 Corinthians 16.1-2; 2 Corinthians 9.6-7*)

Praying (*Acts 2.42; 1 Thessalonians 5.17*)

Singing (*Ephesians 5.19; Colossians 3.16*)

Today, this is another area of confusion in the religious realm. Almost all are divided in the way to worship God. They have gathered up to themselves many different and distinct forms of worship. Worship must be in spirit and in truth, says Christ. (*John 4.24*). In the New Testament Church, we notice, true worship consists of the following:

WORSHIP

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Since the above only is what the scriptures authorize, it is my solemn plea to the masses to reject outright all other offices created by men, and accept the New Testament way. For, after all, the New Testament alone serves as the right standard by which Christians must live in life and service to God.

4

To follow, are earthly bishops, same as elders, pastors, presbyters, who feed, tend, oversee, and rule the flock. (*Acts 20.17, 28; 1 Peter 5.2-4; 1 Timothy 3.1-7; Hebrews 13.17*). With deacons to serve (*1 Timothy 3.8-13*), and with members who minister in word and deed. (*1 Corinthians 12.24-27*).

Organization in the Lord's church is as carefully set out as the organization of any sound institution is organically independent of every other local congregation. It is self-governing under Christ, the heavenly bishop. (*1 Peter 5.4; 2.25*).

ORGANIZATION: CONGREGATIONAL

"The Kingdom of God's dear Son" (*Col. 1.13*)
 "A Kingdom which cannot be shaken" (*Heb. 12.28*)

What Is The Church of Christ?



by Seth E. Osae-Larbi

NOT A DENOMINATION

The general misconception of many that the Church of Christ is a denomination is deeply to be deplored. Denomination suggests a fraction or part of the whole. The Lord's Church and denominations are absolutely incompatible to each other.

Protestant denominations saw their beginning when Luther, in an open rebellion to Roman Catholicism, wrote his famous Ninety-five Theses, a bill of charge against the Catholic Church, and nailed it to the doors of the Schlosskirche of Wittenburg on October 31, 1517. His charges were mainly against the doctrines of the primacy of the Pope, indulgences and purgatory. From that beginning came the Lutheran church,

3

“Household of faith” (*Galatians 6.10*)
 “House of God” (*1 Timothy 3.15*)
 “Christ” (*Romans 16.16*)
 “Churches of Christ” (singular): “Church of
 Christ” (*Colossians 1.18; Ephesians 1.22*)
 “The Church of God” (*1 Corinthians 1.2*)
 “The Apostles called it:
 “The Kingdom of God” (*John 3.5; Luke 22.16*)
 “My church” (*Matthew 16.18*)

Christ called it:

The following are but a few of them:
 Since God does not bring about confusion, He gave
 designations by which the church might be known.

DESIGNATIONS

God's prophet Isaiah had foretold
in prophecy about its establishment in Isaiah 2.2-4.
Upon this In *Matthew 16.18*, Jesus said to Peter, “... *Upon this*
rock, I will build my church.” It was really estab-
 lished on the first Pentecost after Christ's resurrec-
 tion from the dead when 3,000 souls believed the
 gospel preached by Peter and were baptized into
 Christ that same day. (*Acts 2.41-47*).

later to be followed in 1536 by John Calvin and the
 Presbyterian church in Switzerland and many others
 until today.

THE CALLED OUT OR BLOOD-BOUGHT

The word “church” means the “called out.” All
 who have been called out of the world of sin consti-
 tute the church. It would mean those who have
 believed Jesus and are thus sanctified by his precious
 blood. Of these brethren, Paul says, “*The church of*
the Lord which He hath purchased with His own
blood.” (*Acts 20.28*). It is the end product of the
 gospel grown in the hearts of men. (*Luke 8.11; 1*
Peter 1.25).

ONE BODY

The Church of Christ is the one body of Christ
 (“*There is one body,*” *Ephesians 4.4*, “*...for His*
body's sake, which is the church,” *Colossians*
1.24). So you see, there is one body and the body
 is the church. So how many churches are there?
 Think it over!!

ORIGIN

The church of Christ is a divine institution because
 it belongs to Christ. The Lord Himself made the

6

Until now, the Bible convicts all men of sin, and the
 wages thereof being a second death. (*Romans 3.23*;
6.23; Revelation 21.8). Yet, God has promised to
 save only those who obey the Gospel of Christ.
 (*Romans 1.16; Hebrews 5.8-9*). The gospel has these
 facts to be believed: the death, burial, and resurrec-

tion of Christ in man's place. When one from the
 heart obeys the gospel, he enters the Lord's body, and
 hence becomes a member of the Lord's church — 1
 Corinthians 12.13; Colossians 1.24. Concerning the
 gospel, God commands us to:

becomes far from saying, “I was born into it.”
 one easily makes out from the passage. Thus, it
 Kingdom, but rather birth by the Spirit and water as
 that birth by flesh is not the entry requirement into the
 fact (*John 3.1-5*). Our Lord's emphasis was on the fact
 concerning entrance into the Kingdom of heaven.
 attention to the dialogue between Jesus and Nicodemus
 In this tract, I plead with readers to draw their
 many ways upon the integrity of the word of God?
 Would such doctrine or faith not surely reflect in
 denomination even before they are baptized into it.
 they are by virtue of birth, members of the same
 parents belonged to a certain denominational group,
 a Methodist.” “I was born and bred as a Presbyte-
 rian,” some retort. They seem to feel that since their
 church of his choice. “I was born into it.” “I was born
 In Ghana today, the tendency is for one to join the

MEMBERSHIP

tion of Christ in man's place. When one from the
 heart obeys the gospel, he enters the Lord's body, and
 hence becomes a member of the Lord's church — 1
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 gospel, God commands us to:

- Hear** — *Romans 10.17*
- Believe** — *Acts 18.8*
- Repent** — *Acts 2.38; 17.30-31*
- Confess** — *Acts 8.37; Romans 10.10*
- Be Baptized** (immersed)—*Romans 6.3-4; Colos-*
sians 2.12; Acts 22.16

*The Church's one foundation,
 Is Jesus Christ her Lord
 She is His new Creation
 By water and the word
 From heaven He came and sought her
 To be His Holy bride
 With His own blood He bought her
 And for her life He died.*

Visit the church of Christ in you community.