

DEFINED: precisely marked or stated.

What is Church? Is it the building or the people

The first mention of the word church in the entire Bible is in Matthew 16.
Where Jesus says "Upon this rock I will build My church."

"Tertullian first mentions the existence of Churches 200 years after Jesus. About the year 230, Emperor Alexander Severus granted the Christians the right to a special place in Rome. . . . by 300 years after Christ there were Churches everywhere.

 But originally "The priority" was not on the building but on the people

Quit saying Church and start saying follower of Christ!

- 1. Even the word Christian is kind of weird. It was only used **3 times** in the NT and never by believers. It was used by non-believers as a mockery.
 - a. The word Disciple was used 294 times.
 - b. It means Apprentice
- 2. Mark 1:16, Simon and Andrew, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men"

- a. Mark 2:14, Levi the Tax collector, "Follow me"
- b. Mark 3:13, "Went up on a mountain and called to Him those He himself wanted and they came to Him."
- c. Mark 8:34, "He had called the people to himself, with His disciples also."
- d. So it is more of a personal relationship with God then just a semi formal corporate gathering
- 3. The invitation of Jesus is be my Disciple
 - a. Disciple: Student or apprentice (More than just a follower)

"It is the PROCESS moments not the BREAKTHROUGH moments that change you.

John 15:4 TPT, "So you must remain in life-union with me, for I remain in lifeunion with you. For as a branch severed from the vine will not bear fruit, so your life will be fruitless unless you live your life intimately joined to mine."

Romans 12:16 TPT Live happily together in a spirit of harmony, and be as mindful of another's worth as you are your own. Don't live with a lofty mind-set, thinking you are too important to serve others, but be willing to do menial tasks and identify with those who are humble minded. Don't be smug or even think for a moment that you know it all.

Romans 12:2 TPT Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes.