

The Ideal Church Member

Introduction

1. The Lord's church was established on the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Acts 2)

A. The founder of the church is Christ.

Matthew 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

B. The foundation of the church is Christ.

1 Corinthians 3:11 For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, **which is Jesus Christ**.

C. The head of the church is Christ.

Ephesians 5:23 For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.

D. Therefore, we must wear Christ's name.

Philippians 2:9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him **the name which is above every name**,

Romans 16:16 Greet one another with a holy kiss. The **churches of Christ greet you**.

E. It is through baptism that we get into the church.

Galatians 3:27 For as many of you as **were baptized into Christ have put on Christ**.

1 Corinthians 12:13 **For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body**....

Ephesians 1:22-23 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be **head over all things to the church, which is His body**....

2. The ideal church member must be:

A Present Church Member

Hebrews 10:25 **not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together**, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

1. **We must come together to break bread upon the first day of the week.**

A Cooperating Church Member

Romans 12:10 Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor **giving preference to one another**;

1. **We must not compromise but cooperate.**
2. **We should cooperate with Christ in obeying Him.**

A Sympathetic Church Member

Romans 12:15-17

1. **We should be of the same mind toward another.**
2. **We should rejoice with them that rejoice and weep with them that weep.**
3. **We should never recompense man evil for evil.**

A Sincere Church Member

Romans 12:11 not lagging in diligence, **fervent in spirit**, serving the Lord;

1. **We must be honest and truthful - never two-faced.**
2. **We should be fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.**

A Contributing Church Member

Romans 12:8 he who exhorts, in exhortation; **he who gives, with liberality**; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1. **We should give with simplicity.**
2. **We should give to the necessity of the Saints.**

A Peaceful Church Member

Romans 12:9-10, 14-21

1. **We should look for ways to make peace and to show others that we are peacemakers!**

A Growing Church Member

2 Peter 3:18 but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.....

Ephesians 2:21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, **grows into a holy temple in the Lord**,

1 Peter 2:2 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, **that you may grow thereby**,

1. **Are we growing day by day?**

A Studying Church Member

Acts 17:11 These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and **searched the Scriptures daily** to find out whether these things were so.

1. **We need to study to gain the knowledge we need. Ideal church members study.**

A Constant Church Member

1 Corinthians 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, **always abounding in the work of the Lord**, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, **with all longsuffering** and teaching.

1. **Who do you see as a constant church member?**
 - A. **Do others see the same thing in you?**

A Sacrificial Church Member

Romans 12:1-2

1. **Do we present our bodies as a living sacrifice?**
2. **A good church member will sacrifice and give up something and/or anything that is needed to follow the Lord.**

A Praying Church Member

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, **and in prayers**.

1. **This is often a neglected aspect of the Christian life.**
2. **We should talk to our Father often - it will keep us from sliding backwards in our work and service to Him and toward others.**

Conclusion

1. **We are not perfect – but we should strive to be (Matthew 5:48).**
2. **An ideal church member is greatly appreciated by God and sets a very good example for others to follow.**
3. **Let's do our best to be the best we can be!**

