

**Know and Do—Understanding the Church** (Series Outline from Capitol Hill Baptist Church)

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| 1. Week 1: "Unity in the Church"      | 8. Week 8: "Responding to Leadership"          |
| 2. <b>Week 2: "Church Membership"</b> | 9. Week 9: "Church Discipline"                 |
| 3. Week 3: "Diversity in the Body"    | 10. Week 10: "Building One Another Up"         |
| 4. Week 4: "Right Preaching"          | 11. Week 11: "Serving in the Church"           |
| 5. Week 5: "Church Governance"        | 12. Week 12: "Corporate Worship"               |
| 6. Week 6: "Biblical Fellowship"      | 13. Week 13: "Discipleship—Making and Growing" |
| 7. Week 7: "Handling Dissatisfaction" |  |

**Understanding the Church, Week 2: "Church Membership"** (know portion)

**I. The Bible assumes Christians will be \_\_\_\_\_ of a \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 11).**

*<sup>11</sup> And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,*

**II. Benefits of church membership (vv. 12–15)**

1. **Eternally \_\_\_\_\_ work (v. 12)** <sup>12</sup> *to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,*
2. \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ **(v. 13)** <sup>13</sup> *until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,*
3. **Inoculation against \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 14)** <sup>14</sup> *so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.*
4. \_\_\_\_\_ **discipleship (v. 15)** <sup>15</sup> *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,*

**III. In summary, church membership means \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ (v.**

**16).** <sup>16</sup> *from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love*

## **Understanding the Church, Week 2: “Church Membership”** (do portion)

1. People often claim church membership is not in the Bible. How would you contest that claim and defend biblical church membership?
2. Why is it important to understand the benefits of church membership?
3. Most people are not pastors or missionaries, so their vocation is not in the local church.
  - a. Can you think of lay people in Scripture that God used for his glory?
  - b. How does church membership give eternal significance to your vocation?
4. Why is important for every Christian to grow in maturity and in their knowledge of Christ no matter their age? How does the local church help them grow?
5. What ways does the false teaching of the world seep into a person’s subconscious and conscious mind? How does church membership keep you from being led astray?
6. Why is it important for a person’s discipleship to be ongoing rather than occasional?
7. Can you think of other reasons a Christian ought to be an active member of a local church?
8. Write down one thing you can do this week to be a better church member. And go do it 😊