

WELLSPRING

WORSHIP CENTER

Commitment to Local Church --- Reflection Questions 2/11/2024

1. In Matthew 16:17-18, Jesus lists of several characteristics of the Christian church. Were any of these characteristics especially meaningful to you?
The Christian Church?
 - a. Is built on the true understanding of who Jesus is
 - b. Is built by Jesus Himself
 - c. Belongs to Jesus Himself
 - d. Is a single entity
 - e. Is victorious over spiritual darkness
2. Why are there so many different expressions of Christian churches in the world today? Are these different expressions a positive thing or a negative thing?
3. When Jesus tells us in Matthew 16:18 that the gates of hell shall not prevail against His church, does this mean the church is meant to offensively attack the spiritual gates of hell?
4. Did you find it surprising that God deals with churches in the New Testament as collective wholes and not a group of individual people?
What are the ramifications of this?
5. Many times in Scripture, God blesses or judges specific groups of people even though every individual in that group may not deserve blessing or may not deserve judgement. How is this fair?
6. The Greek language in the New Testament distinguishes between the word “you” in the singular and “you” in the plural. Since the English language does not make this distinction, what issues can this potentially cause in trying to understand the meaning of a passage?
7. Philippians 2:12 says to, “work out **your** own salvation with fear and trembling.” The word for “**your**” is in the plural, which means that the emphasis in this verse is not that everyone works on their individual salvation but more together as a church. What does this mean?
8. What would you say to a Christian who told you that they love Jesus but have no interest in ever being part of a church?
9. From John 17:19, what did you think of the concept that, “We strive for maturity not only for our own sake but for the sake of others”?