

Defining the "church" Biblically.....

Now, the Bible shows us that Jesus had followers. They are spoken of in the book of Acts of Apostles--as well as the other books of the Bible. They followed exactly the same pattern as Jesus did. They received the Holy Spirit--they were empowered by the Spirit of God--just as Jesus was. The empowerment of that same Spirit of God played out in them in exactly the same way as with Jesus.

The church which followed after Jesus as shown to us in the Bible:

Preached the **Gospel** of salvation in Jesus' name  
**Healed** the sick in Jesus' name  
Brought **deliverance** in Jesus' name  
**Fed the poor** (specifically the poor within the church)  
**Released** others to do the same--they operated apostolically--in small groups--and concentrated their efforts out to the world--as was Jesus' example.

The definition of the "church" is "the body of Christ". The church, as defined by the Bible, is a group of believers, who work together as brothers and sisters in the Lord. Each member is meant to operate in their anointing--their gifts, empowered by the Holy Spirit--IN ORDER TO CARRY ON JESUS' MINISTRY IN THE EARTH. The "church" as the Bible defines it, is a group of Christians, who imitate Christ--who function and operate in the same way as Christ Himself. No one part ought to think more highly of itself than any other. All the parts have different functions--but ALL have ministry

“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith. For as we have many members in one body, and all members have not the same office: So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us..... “ (Romans 12: 3-6)

The church which followed after Jesus did exactly the same ministry as He did. They carried it on as He had instructed them--they lived it out exactly as He had done--but they did it all in groups--with the leading and guidance of the Holy Spirit--with Christ as the Head of the church. No one person ” had authority over” the rest

This is the example of what the "church" ought to function like and operate like. A group of people who gather together--are empowered by the Holy Spirit--and go about on a daily basis, working together--to carry on the ministry that Jesus demonstrated--teaching the Gospel--praying for the sick--bringing deliverance to those in need--feeding the poor--and releasing others to do the same. Christ the only Head---and ALL believers on the common ground of brotherhood.

This is what the church is supposed to look like. This is what the church which the Bible describes looked like. Does your church look like this?

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