The Church Is :

Greg Kline · Ephesians 1:20–23

INTRODUCTION

- I think if I were to ask everybody this morning what is the church, there'd be one of two answers.
- What is the kingdom? What is the church? And more importantly than just what is it, how does that change the way we live?

1 Christ Is Head of the Kingdom

Colossians 1:13–14

- He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- Redemption is real and possible. And it's only done through God's plan in the workings of Christ Jesus.
- Because if you have a king, what does that mean if you are not the king? You answer to the king.
- To elevate Christ and to trust his will always and completely, even if it conflicts with what I think or feel.

2 We Are Children of God

1 John 3:1–3; Galatians 3:25–29

- What kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God.
- God, the creator of the heavens and the earth, says, You, my creation, can be my children.
- For in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God by faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- Why is it so important to be in Christ? Because that's where salvation is.

3 Elders Shepherd the Family of God

1 Peter 5:1–4

- Not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.
- A shepherd takes care and gives attention to the flock. It feeds the flock. It nourishes the flock.
- An elder, a shepherd, an overseer is not some sort of lawmaker.
- But it also means that I must have a respect and respectful submission to my family leader.

4 Men Will Lead

Ephesians 4:11–16; 1 Timothy 2:8–15

- He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.
- The church is not just three hours here and one hour on Wednesday evening.

- Leadership is not a one-time act or a big in front of a big group action. Leadership happens individually.
- That means I need to learn how to be a leader as a husband, as a father, as a member of God's family.

5 Women Play Absolutely Vital Roles

Titus 2:1–6; 1 Corinthians 7:32–38

- This worship assembly is the smallest tip of the iceberg of pleasing our king and the head of the church body.
- Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine, but they are to teach what is good.
- Not only do women have a role in God's family, they have a pivotal one.
- If you are unmarried, what can you focus more on? The will of God.

6 Members Will Sacrifice

Philippians 2:1–5

- Members will sacrifice. Not because of the word church, not because of the word kingdom, and not even because of the word family, but because we recognize our bonds as children of God.
- In humility, count others more significant than yourselves.
- Let each of you look not only to his own interest, but also to the interest of others.
- When I see that somebody is spiritually weak, I won't write that off as somebody else's problem.

MY NOTES