

## Edification and the Purpose of the Church 07-29-18 AM

What was the Purpose of the Temple in the Old Testament? In 1 Chronicles 29:1 "King David said to the entire assembly, "...the temple is not for man, but for the LORD God." What is the temple today? In 1 Corinthians 3:17 Paul said "*If any man destroys the temple of God, God will destroy him, for the temple of God is holy, and that is what you are.*"

If you asked people today who are not familiar with the New Testament what the purpose of the church is, you will receive many answers. They might admit that they think it is for creating power and wealth (consider the charlatans on TV in this vein). Maybe it is the idea of entertainment of Christians or for solving social problems. But the church is not built for these purposes. The New Testament reveals certain works the church is authorized to do, such as Evangelism (teaching the lost), Edification (building up saints) and Benevolence (taking care of the needs of saints). But these things are authorized works more than a purpose.

In the New Testament, the commandments to the church reveal two big ideas: taking care of the physical and spiritual needs of Christians (we will sum this up with the word EDIFICATION) and the PURITY of the church in doctrine and in membership. In regards to edification, this purpose is revealed the most often. We might consider the many "one another" verses that point us to one another. We might also consider the day of judgment revealed in Matthew 25 as a chief part of our judgment.

The bible gives us a good indication of the mission of the church in Ephesians 4:12: *For the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ.* It then goes on to reveal the goal of that mission in verses 14-16: *As a result...we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ, from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.*

### Five Principles of Edification

1. It is not a feeling, it is about knowledge
  - Edification is defined as Enlightening of ignorance, spiritual teaching
  - It is NOT making someone feel better (*They heal the brokenness of the daughter of My people superficially, saying, 'peace, peace,' But there is no peace* - Jeremiah 8:11)
2. Edification builds us to serve God
  - Edification builds us up to serve God - 1 Peter 2:5
  - We EDIFY each other AS the church - 1 Corinthians 12:27
  - In Scripture a mindset of receiving edification is not present; instead, it is a mindset of giving
    - "*ask not what your \_\_\_\_\_ can do for you, but what you can do for your \_\_\_\_\_*"
3. Edification may not feel good
  - Edification, because it is grown can bring about growing Pains
  - Growing up does not always feel good (Changes in perspective, being chastised)
  - Edification: deeds meant to raise up; it is working to encourage with purpose, to BE better
4. All of us are charged personally to edify

- The work of edifying other is our Spiritual Service; God expects you to edify
- See list of one-another verses. This is how you edify

5. Edification is what makes a church alive

What things can you do to edify your brethren?

- 1) Express your love to your brethren
  - Words (greetings)
  - Deeds
  - Fostering fervency and devotion to God
- 2) Forgive and be patient with your brethren
  - Not judging them
  - Not complaining against them
- 3) Worship with your brethren
  - Singing to them
  - Praying with them
  - Waiting for them
- 4) Putting their needs before yours
  - Being humble
  - Serving them
- 5) Working to be in doctrinal agreement
  - Refusing to accept dis-unity in spirit

## Edification - One Another Commandments

John 13:14 wash one another's feet  
John 13:34 love one another.....love one another  
John 13:35 have love for one another  
John 15:12, 17 love one another  
Romans 12:10 Be devoted to one another ..... give preference to one another  
Romans 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another  
Romans 13:8 love one another  
Romans 14:13 (do) not judge one another  
Romans 14:19 build up one another  
Romans 15:5 be of the same mind with one another  
Romans 15:7 accept one another  
Romans 15:14 admonish one another.  
Romans 16:16 Greet one another  
1 Corinthians 11:33 wait for one another  
1 Corinthians 12:25 have the same care for one another  
1 Corinthians 16:20 Greet one another  
2 Corinthians 13:12 Greet one another  
Galatians 5:13 serve one another  
Galatians 6:2 Bear one another's burdens  
Ephesians 4:2 show tolerance for one another  
Ephesians 4:25 speak truth to one another  
Ephesians 4:32 Be kind to one another..... forgive one another  
Ephesians 5:19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,  
Ephesians 5:21 submit to one another  
Philippians 2:3 regard one another  
Colossians 3:9 Do not lie to one another  
Colossians 3:13 bear with one another.... Forgive one another  
Colossians 3:16 teach and admonish one another  
1 Thessalonians 3:12 abound in love for one another  
1 Thessalonians 4:9 love one another;  
1 Thessalonians 4:18 comfort one another  
1 Thessalonians 5:11 encourage one another and build up one another  
1 Thessalonians 5:13 Live in peace with one another.  
1 Thessalonians 5:15 seek after that which is good for one another  
Hebrews 3:13 encourage one another  
Hebrews 10:24 consider how to stimulate one another  
Hebrews 10:25 encourage one another  
James 4:11 Do not speak against one another  
James 5:9 Do not complain against one another,  
James 5:16 confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another  
1 Peter 1:22 fervently love one another  
1 Peter 4:8 keep fervent in your love for one another  
1 Peter 4:9 Be hospitable to one another  
1 Peter 4:10 in serve one another  
1 Peter 5:5 clothe yourselves with humility toward one another  
1 Peter 5:14 Greet one another  
1 John 3:11, 23, 4:7, 4:11, 4:12 love one another  
2 John 5 love one another