

THE ROLE OF THE CHURCH IN YOUR LIFE By Jarrod Davidoff January 24, 2021

Let us establish:

1. Jesus is the head of the Church

Isn't that wonderful to know. He's not serving a term limit, he can't be fired, He can't be impeached, He rules and reigns for all Eternity. Hallelujah.

Colossians 1:18 And He is the head of the body, the church

So Jesus is the Head of the Church. He is the one that instituted it.

The meaning of Church in the Greek is Ekklisía the **word** is a compound of two segments: "ek", a preposition meaning "out of", and a verb, "kaleo", signifying "to call" - together, literally, "to call out"

So the Church is the called out ones. We have been called out of darkness into His marvelous light for the purpose of sharing the gospel to the nations.

Matthew 16:13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"

14 So they said, "Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

16 Simon Peter answered and said, "**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.**"

17 Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. **18** And I also say to you that you are Peter, **and on this rock I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. **19** And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

So the Church is built on the Revelation that Jesus is the Son of God

2. Who is the Church?

Jesus is the Head of the church and we His children are members of it. We are the Church.

1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit *who is* in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

1 Corinthians 12:27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.

Exodus 19:6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’

Revelation 1:6 and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father

The Church is not a building. It’s a Chamber where the children of God meet to discuss kingdom business. We are the Church.

To understand the role of the Church in your life we also need to look at.

GOD’S KINGDOM

God's original intent was to establish the heavenly kingdom of God on earth, through His sons.

Luke 4:42 Now when it was day, He departed and went into a deserted place. And the crowd sought Him and came to Him, and tried to keep Him from leaving them; **43** but He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, because for this purpose I have been sent.

What is the kingdom of Heaven?

It is the domain/territory or place where God is, and where He rules and reigns
In that domain where He exercises authority over that territory.

His territory is called Heaven.

What is the Kingdom of God?

It is any domain where the rulership influence and authority of God is in effect.
The kingdom of God means that God's kingdom is dominating an area.

The kingdom of God is like the White House having the seat of Government there, then it has elected authorities in each state. Each state has to carry out what the president or congress dictate according to the constitution.

The same is true in Heaven. God is omnipresent YET His ultimate seat of Government is Heaven. Our constitution is the word of God and we are elected officials sent forth to carry the gospel of the kingdom where God has assigned you to be.

If you work at

The Hospital

School

Business

Car business

Lawyer

Salesperson

Home executive

Minister

Wherever you are, YOU ARE AN AMBASSADOR OF THE KINGDOM.

Matthew 6:10 Your kingdom come. Your will be done
On earth as *it is* in heaven.

So if God wants it to be on earth like it is in heaven, then what's it like in Heaven.

No sickness

No disease

Joy

Peace

Love

No stress, strife, sin. Pain, hurt,

YET THE BIGGEST THING I WANT TO WARN YOU ABOUT AS YOUR PASTOR AS IM
ACCOUNTABLE TO THE LORD TO WARN YOU IS REGRET.

Make sure that you fulfill your purpose and destiny, as their people waiting at the other end of your obedience.

2 Corinthians 5:20 Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore *you* on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

When we speak of the gospel we automatically think of Jesus dying on the Cross for us and raising from the dead, and this is great BUT this is not what Jesus was going around teaching this gospel of the kingdom

Luke 12:32 "Do not fear, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

Imagine you inherit \$10 million. Yet you are living in poverty and someone impersonated you to get the \$10 million and has started dipping into your inheritance. So I come to you and say hey don't worry, I'll go and get the checkbook and codes for you and transfer the money all into your account.

That's what Jesus did. He is that guy.

You are not just saved to go to heaven, you are saved to establish God's kingdom on earth.

It's God's great pleasure to give us the kingdom. He wants you to be a king that has dominion. He wants you to dominate.

Jesus said to Nicodemus

John 3:5 Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God

So the **born again experience** is **the beginning** of entering the kingdom of God.

Being born again is **your passport to a new country and government**. Many people are citizens but they don't know their rights. And they don't know their privileges.

God takes pleasure when you are in charge of your life, your future, your destiny, your surroundings..

THE CHURCH AND THE KINGDOM ARE NOT SYNONYMOUS

Because you are a member of a local church does not mean that you are experiencing the kingdom.

The kingdom of God existed before the church.

Matthew 25:34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:

God wanted man to influence the world through the Holy Spirit YET man sinned and lost the Holy Spirit. You see the Holy Spirit was man's connection with heaven.

THE ROLE OF CHURCH IN YOUR LIFE:

1. Teach, Train and Equip you for the work of the ministry

Ephesians 4:8 Therefore He says:

“When He ascended on high,
He led captivity captive,
And gave gifts to men.”

9 (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? **10** He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

11 And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, **12** for the **equipping of the saints** for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, **13** till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; **14** that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

That’s what we want to do at Eternity Church:

- Teach you about God and who you are in Him
- Train and equip you for the spiritual ministry that the Lord has for you and to help get you into God's perfect plan and purpose for your life.

2. Discipleship and fellowship

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

Acts 2:46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Matthew 28:19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even to the end of the age.*” Amen.

Hebrews 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together,

I can't stress the importance of the connect groups enough. This is where true discipleship takes place.

I also can't stress the importance of going to church weekly and making sure your kids go.

Your kids need to grow in the Lord and see church as an essential part of their week.

GOD DOESN'T HAVE GRANDCHILDREN

Or sadly when you go to heaven your children may not and your whole family potential for God's glory is lost. Lucinda and I are very intentional about discipling our boys.

Praying with them

Bible study even in car

Talking about bible characters (not cartoon characters, although we do let them watch some)

Discipling others (Cody is 8 and has his own connect group. He writes his own sermon with Lucinda on what we speaking on at church and shares it)

Maybe you missed it with your kids growing up-it's not too late, EVEN WITH GRANDCHILDREN

3. Accountability

Proverbs 27:17 As iron sharpens iron,
So a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. **2** Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Knowing that we are accountable to each other helps constrain us. People that have no accountability are at law to themselves and their no consequences and true friendships and mentors.

4. Support you

At Eternity Church we want to be here for you to encourage you and support you as you venture to fulfill your God given destiny yet be truthful with you along your walk with the Lord to help you.

The bible says faithful are the wounds of a friend.

1 Peter 5:5 Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to *your* elders. Yes, all of *you* be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for

“God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble.”

6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, **7** casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Hebrews 13:17 Obey those who rule over you, and be submissive, for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, for that would be unprofitable for you.

5. Serve with your gifts and talents

Matthew 25:14 “For *the kingdom of heaven is* like a man traveling to a far country, *who* called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. **15** And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability;

Serve the Lord and His kingdom with the gifts and talents He has given you.

Romans 12:4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, **5** so we, *being* many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. **6** Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, *let us use them*: if prophecy, *let us prophesy* in proportion to our faith; **7** or ministry, *let us use it* in *our* ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; **8** he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Corinthians 12:12 For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also *is* Christ. **13** For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one

body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. **14** For in fact the body is not one member but many.

15 If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? **16** And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not of the body,” is it therefore not of the body? **17** If the whole body *were* an eye, where *would be* the hearing? If the whole *were* hearing, where *would be* the smelling? **18** But now God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. **19** And if they were all one member, where *would* the body *be*?

20 But now indeed *there are* many members, yet one body. **21** And the eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”; nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” **22** No, much rather, those members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary. **23** And those *members* of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable *parts* have greater modesty, **24** but our presentable *parts* have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that *part* which lacks it, **25** that there should be no schism in the body, but *that* the members should have the same care for one another. **26** And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with *it*; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with *it*.

5. Get a vision and set goals

Once you know what you are meant to be in life you need a vision of what to do and goals or targets in when to do them by.

If you don't know where you are going, you won't know when you get there.

Write down what you want to achieve and what you have to do to achieve them. These are my goals.

So when I know that God called me as an evangelist I knew I had to

1. Study evangelism so I enrolled in an evangelism course called Evangelism Explosion International (to equip myself in what to say and doing one on one evangelism)
2. I started to study evangelists like Reinhard Bonnke and Billy Graham books and watch their crusades
3. I started in Joubert Park practicing and being humble (I SERVED MY CHURCH for 2 years weekly outreach and planning)
4. Wrote down I want to do crusades
5. I needed a mentor to learn from: no one better than Reinhard Bonnke
6. Wrote down I wanted to start my own ministry: Save the World Foundation and did
7. Wrote down cities across South Africa and Southern Africa to do crusades and done it
8. Wrote down 1 million goal, 2 million, 5 million
9. Wrote down come to America
10. Wrote down schools in OC and LA (130)
11. Wrote down to start Eternity Church
12. WROTE DOWN ETERNITY CHURCH BUILDING
13. STWF 250 teams leading 100 000 each a year, that's 25 million a year

I want to encourage you to write your goals down. BIG OWNS OVERALL and then smaller ones to achieve them

3. The role of Church in your life

People in the world search out leaders, speakers, gurus and mentors as a source of information, inspiration and guidance to help them achieve their goals.

All that is good and well, yet that is known as the Babylonian system. It is where they take pride in their accomplishments looking to themselves as the ones who made it happen.

Yet God gives you all the intelligence, wisdom, connections and favor to accomplish what He has called you to do, yet your source of wisdom and mentoring needs to happen in His Church.

That's because God's laws and ways are very contrary to the world's ways.

That's why it's so important for you and your family to be rooted in the church, for growing in your faith, character, wisdom, favor and divine protection.

Athletes that are aspiring to become professionals have a certain level of seriousness about them as they pursue their dream. They are trained by a coach ie the pastor and other coaches, ie other pastors and guest speakers.

They are in a team, i.e. a connect group that supports and challenges them on their journey.

I've been a believer 28 years now and in ministry 21 years. I can only tell you from my personal experience that I have seen different types of Christians

1. There are those that add Jesus onto their life and church onto their life. They come to church when they can

2. Some are all in. Jesus is the Lord of their lives, they are church on Sundays and connect group
-they are equipped with the word of God to contain all that the Lord has for them.

It's like being at the reading of a will of someone who just died. Lets just say you have an uncle Larry whose sole worldly possession was a fishing rod, old laptop and 2 chairs. Now imagine they call you to say your beloved Uncle Larry died and you have been invited to San Francisco for the reading of his will. There a strong likeliness that you wouldn't show up

Now say your Uncle was Larry Ellison from Oracle whose current net worth is 75.3 billion. And say the lawyers contact you to come to the reading of his will as you are a major recipient.

Would you go to the reading???

Well every Sunday there is a reading of what is promised to you and how you can get it. But unfortunately if you are not here then you cannot hear about and access these great promises and inheritance.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, **25** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as *is* the manner of some, but exhorting *one another*, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. **43** Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. **44** Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, **45** and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of

heart, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

Ephesians 4:7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. **8** Therefore He says:

“When He ascended on high,
He led captivity captive,
And gave gifts to men.”

9 (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? **10** He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)

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