

Matthew Zamudio, Pastor, Windsor Park Baptist Church, Desoto Tx. September 17, 2017. All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. Selected Scriptures.

1. THE CHURCH IS NOT PERFECT

Romans 3:23 (ESV)- For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

I Corinthians 1:2 (ESV)- To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those <u>sanctified in Christ Jesus</u>, <u>called to be saints together</u> with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

2. THE CHURCH IS **UNIQUE**

BUILT BY GOD

Ephesians 2:22 (ESV)-In him <u>you also are being built together</u> into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Matthew 16:18 (ESV)-And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock <u>I</u> will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

PROTECTED BY GOD

Matthew 16:18 (ESV)-And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

3. THE CHURCH IS LOVED

Ephesians 5:25 (ESV)-Husbands, love your wives, <u>as Christ loved the church</u> and gave himself up for her,

Ephesians 5:29-30 (ESV)- For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body.

4. THE CHURCH IS A PLACE TO BELONG

IN THE CHURCH WE HAVE ACCEPTANCE

Ephesians 2:19a (ESV)- So then you are no longer <u>strangers</u> and <u>aliens</u>,

IN THE CHURCH WE HAVE PLACE & PURPOSE

Ephesians 2:19b (ESV)- but you are <u>fellow citizens</u> with the saints and members of the household of God,

Genesis 2:18a (ESV)- Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone;

IN THE CHURCH WE HAVE LOVE

Ephesians 2:19b (ESV)- but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

Romans 12:10 (ESV)-Love one another with <u>brotherly affection</u>. Outdo one another in showing honor.

IN THE CHURCH WE HAVE SUPPORT

Ephesians 2:20-21 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, <u>being joined together</u>, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

I Corinthians 12:12 (ESV)-For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

We are all Necessary, We are all Different, We are all Connected

IN THE CHURCH WE HAVE GROWTH

Ephesians 2:22 (ESV)-In him <u>you also are being built together</u> into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Proverbs 27:17 (ESV)- Iron sharpens iron, and <u>one man sharpens</u> <u>another</u>.

Here is The Point: Humans were designed to belong in a local body of Christ for the glory of God.