

You Are The TEMPLE of GOD

1 Corinthians 3:16

Christian Life Center, A Foursquare Church | DiscipleshipDevelopment.org

Introduction...

The first mention of the word “Church” is in Matthew 16:18 in reference to absolute victory, *...and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail (be victorious) against it.* However, the current reality may not reflect that in America. The True Church is a body of people who are humbled by His Grace, who are intimately and actively following Christ, and expanding His Kingdom at home and abroad. So how do we become that type of Church in a society that is increasingly becoming more ungodly? It begins with us... with me!

Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem in Matthew 21:1-16.

As Jesus approached Jerusalem, the people were overcome with ecstatic joy. He then went through the Gate and immediately headed to the Temple where the people were not expecting what He was about to do! He violently overthrows the money changers’ tables, changing it from a “den of thieves” back to its original purpose, a house of prayer. Then the blind and lame came to Him and were gloriously healed! Seeing the power of God, the children began to praise and exalt Him as the Son of David!

God’s Word states that *we (you)* are the Temple of God.

1 Corinthians 3:16 *Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? What will take place when Christ’s Presence comes to your Temple (heart) in the form of the Holy Spirit?*

We can prepare our hearts for His entrance as it states in Isaiah 40:3-5, *Prepare the way for the LORD... Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low; the uneven ground will become smooth, and the rugged land a plain...*

When He comes to our Temple...

1. CLEANSING — Let Him not only forgive you of your sin, but allow the Spirit to do a deep cleansing from the motive and bondage of sin. Go beyond the letter of the Law and into the heart.

- Matthew 5:21-30 ...*21 You have heard that it was said to those of old, "You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment." But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment...*
2. PRAYER — *Force* a consistent time of intimate prayer where you develop your ability to hear His still, small Voice.
 - 1 Kings 19:11-13 ...*and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice (a delicate whispering voice).*
 - Psalm 16:11 *You have made known to me the path of life; You will fill me with joy in Your presence, with eternal pleasures at Your right hand.*
 - Ephesians 5:16 — To create a meaningful and consistent time of prayer we MUST “redeem” (buy back) our time.
 - Begin to make the Disciple’s prayer pattern found in Matthew 6:9-13 a life habit. Scan the code or [click here](#) to view the document.
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3. PRAISE — Contend for HIS Presence and Power in your own life. Become a person who will give God praise IN ANY SITUATION! In doing so healing on all levels can be yours!
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 *Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*
 4. REKINDLE the fire and passion for Christ and for the eternal things — Revelation 2:4-5 tells how: Remember the things before the fire went dim; repent, change our way of thinking and action; and return to the things we did before: quiet time with the Spirit, Bible reading, and developing a godly lifestyle.

My prayer...

Heavenly Father, I realize that I have allowed the fire and joyful passion for You to dim. Please forgive me. I ask that You would stir my heart and set me ablaze for Your Kingdom! I’m a member of the Body of Christ and a Citizen of Heaven and no longer want to live in two separate worlds! Fill me afresh with Your Holy Spirit and renew my vision to make a difference with You in my life. Amen!