

# Sermon Outline

## WHOSE CHURCH IS IT ANYWAY? ... | Geoff Lin

Readings: Colossians 1:15-20 (p.1676); Matthew 16:13-20 (p. 1398); Luke 8:19-21 (p.1473)

"Church" Competition (enter at <https://www.trinitycity.church/resources/series/church/>)

1. What do you love about church?
2. What could you do to make church better?

Talk 1: What's the point of church?  
Talk 2: Whose church is it anyway?  
Talk 3: What should church be like?

### 1. Jesus is the head of the church

Col 1:15 The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. <sup>16</sup> For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> And he is **the head of the body, the church**; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Implication: so \_\_\_\_\_

<https://www.trinitycity.church/about/policies/>

Rom 8:29 For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be **the firstborn among many brothers and sisters**.

Jn 1:12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, **he gave the right to become children of God**

### 2. Jesus loves the church

Jn 10:11 I am **the good shepherd**. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

Acts 20:28 Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of **the church of God, which he bought with his own blood**.

1 Cor 1:4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as **Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her** <sup>26</sup> to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, <sup>27</sup> and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Implication: so \_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Jesus will build His church

Mt 16:17 Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build my church**, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

Mt 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Therefore *go* and **make disciples of all nations**, *baptizing* them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and *teaching* them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Implication: so \_\_\_\_\_

#### Q1. How do we belong to Jesus today?

Lk 8:19 Now Jesus' mother and brothers came to see him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. <sup>20</sup> Someone told him, "Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you." <sup>21</sup> He replied, "**My mother and brothers are those who hear God's word and put it into practice.**"

Church = "Christ's people gathered around God's word, to the praise of His glorious grace"

#### No mention of ... church buildings

"What the New Testament models for us is not simply hospitality but *spiritual* hospitality - that is, meeting together in each other's homes not just for food but for the explicit purpose of being built up in the faith through fellowship over the word and prayer. Sure, it's great to meet house to house and have fun, watch movies and play board games; but it's rich beyond imagining to be able to engage spiritually with God's people around God's word." (Karl Deenick, *Gathered Together: the beauty of living as God's church* (2022), p.72)

#### Q2. How do you belong to our church family?

- i. attend a gathering every Sunday
- ii. join a growth group
- iii. get involved in service

For next Sunday ... *pre-read the passage*