## **Definition of CHURCH**

- 1 : a building for public and especially Christian worship
- 2 : the clergy or officialdom of a religious body <the word *church* ... is put for the persons that are ordained for the ministry of the Gospel, that is to say, the clergy J. Ayliffe>
- *often capitalized*: a body or organization of religious believers: such as
  a: the whole body of Christians <the one *church* is the whole body gathered together from all ages J. H. Newman>
  - **b**: DENOMINATION < the Presbyterian church>
  - c: congregation < they had appointed elders for them in every church Acts 14:23 (RSV)>
- 4 : a public divine worship <goes to *church* every Sunday>
- **5** : the clerical profession <considered the *church* as a possible career>



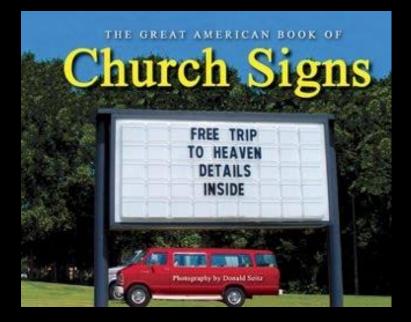




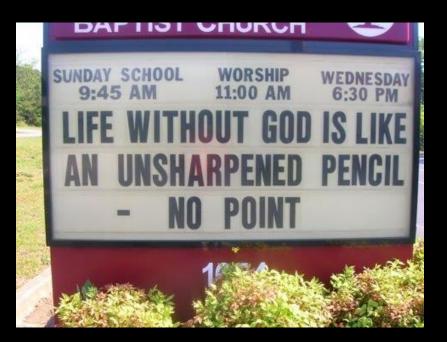


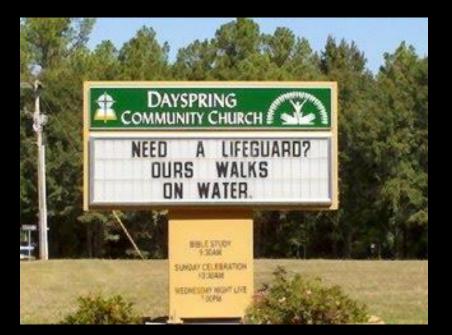














So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!"

1 Corinthians 14:23-28

What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. If anyone speaks in a tongue, two-or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.

1 Corinthians 14:23-28

Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

Ephesians 5:25

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church

Ephesians 1:22

"Again, truly I tell you that if two of you on earth agree about anything they ask for, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them."

Matthew 18:19-20

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.

Acts 20:28

so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it.

1 Corinthians 12:25-26

Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

1 Corinthians 12:14

not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one anotherand all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:25

We are not called to save the world, solve all problems, and help all people. But we each have our own unique call, in our families, in our work, in our world. We have to keep asking God to help us see clearly what our call is and to give us the strength to live out that call with trust. Then we will discover that our faithfulness to a small task is the most healing response to the illnesses of our time.

**Henri Nouwen** 

Leadership in the church is not entrusted to successful fund raisers, brilliant biblical scholars, administrative geniuses, or spellbinding preachers...but to those who have been laid waste by a consuming passion for Christ passionate men and women for whom privilege and power are trivial compared to knowing and loving Jesus.

Brennan Manning

