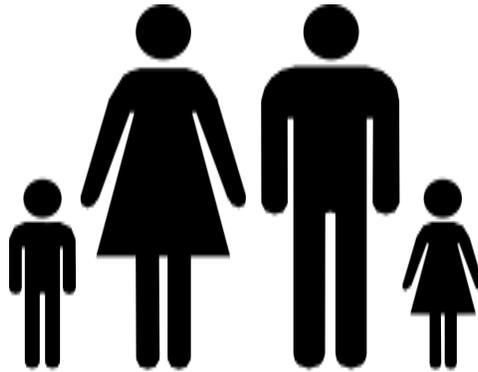


Union Baptist Church
904 North Roxboro St
Durham, NC 27701
Reverend Prince Raney Rivers, Pastor

New Disciple's Class

Lesson 02 – The Church and Its Mission



Enter to Worship

Depart to Serve

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Lesson 2

THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

In the New testament, the Greek word used to refer to the church as EKKLSIA, which means “assembly or congregation”, Ekklesia comes from the Greek verb, which means “to call forth or call out”. This term is used with some frequency in the of Acts and is translated “assembly” in the King James Version (Acts 19:32, 39-41). In Acts 7:38, it is translated as “church” and refers to the congregation of the children of Israel which was a figure of the Christian Church.

The Church then is the “called out ones” those people who have responded to God’s call to engage in mission by placing their faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. The Apostle Paul also makes use of the same term in referring to the church as a local congregation (Romans 16:1, 1 Corinthians 14:4). He also uses it to refer to the church as a whole (1 Corinthians 12:28, Colossians 1:18). His description of the church as the “body of Christ” is another way of Paul’s speaking of the church as a whole (Romans 12: 4, 1 Corinthians 12: 12), Colossians 1:18, Ephesians 1:23, 4:12).

The mission of the church is spelled out in **Jesus’s Great Commission** (Matthew 28:18-20) and is variously stated in other places (Acts 1:8,9,10 and II Corinthians 5:19). The mission of the church is God’s mission. Just as God sent his son on a mission, he also has sent his church on a mission. That mission involves the proclamation of the gospel of God’s love, grace and mercy in Jesus Christ. The mission of the church is to share in God’s ministry or reconciliation to the whole world. The gospel (Good News) meets and addresses itself to the total needs of man. Both spiritual and physical, both personal and social.

The mission of the church begins at our door and extends to every corner of the world wherever people are unreconciled to God. Thus, the mission of the church is “here, there, and everywhere”. This is the significance of The Great Commission as recorded in (Acts 1: 8) (Witnesses in Jerusalem Judea and Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the world).

Throughout its history, the church of Jesus Christ has taken a variety of forms to enable it to carry out its mission.

1. The local congregation,
2. The mission Station
3. The Baptist Association
4. The City Mission Society
5. The State, National, International conventions

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Lesson II

THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

Review Questions:

1. According to the New Testament, who composes and makes up the church?

2. Where in the New Testament is the mission of the church spelled out clearly?

3. What does the mission of the church involve?

4. Where does the mission of the church begin and end?

5. What are some of the forms the church has taken throughout its history?
