

Measuring Our Lives

2 Corinthians 12:19-21 (NIV)

*Have you been thinking all along that we have been defending ourselves to you? We have been speaking in the sight of God as those in Christ; and everything we do, dear friends, is for your strengthening. ²⁰ For I am afraid that when I come I may not find you as I want you to be, and you may not find me as you want me to be. I fear that there may be **discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.** ²¹ I am afraid that when I come again my God will humble me before you, and I will be grieved over many who have sinned earlier and have not repented of the impurity, sexual sin and debauchery in which they have indulged.*

4 Walls of His Church

- Baselea — _____
- Koinonia — _____
- Ekklesia — _____
- Martus — _____

3 Measurements We Use When We Build His Church

- _____
- _____
- _____

1. Commissioned People will be measured by how we _____.

2. Commissioned People will be measured by how we _____.

2 Corinthians 12:20 *I am afraid that when I come...*

- I'm afraid you are plagued by _____.

2 Corinthians 12:20 *I am afraid that when I come...*

- I'm afraid you are still immersed in _____.
- I'm afraid you are forgetting who _____.

How the Body of Christ Works

- The Father's Part: _____
 - Our Part: _____
- The Father's Part: _____
 - Our Part: _____
- The Father's Part: _____
 - Our Part: _____

1 Corinthians 12:27 *You are the Body of Christ and each one of you is part of it.*

Warnings Signs and the Kingdom Reality: "...the day will come..."

Digging Deeper

(for group study and conversation, and for personal reflection)

- Review the 4 walls and the 3 measurements, what they are, and their importance in building the Church.
- As a group, quote the memory verse for the whole year (1 Corinthians 12:27), and discuss briefly the significance of this truth.
- With those important theological truths and illustrative visuals as a backdrop about how to build His Church, take some time to examine some of the following passages found in the gospels. In a small group setting, you will have to choose only one or two of these passages for this study, if only for the sake of time. Those you do not complete as a group, please work through on your own during some personal study time.

Near the end of Jesus' earthly life he taught some of the hardest parables about the Kingdom of God. Here are the scripture locations of these parables. As a group, or individually on your own, **read slowly** each of these parables, think deeply, and explore the truths that Christ is teaching us about how we are Kingdom people building His Church.

- **Matthew 24:36-51 & Luke 12:35-48 — Keep Watch!**
 - What does it mean when Jesus says, "You won't know the day or the hour"?
 - Why is Noah used as an illustration?
 - What does it mean to "keep watch"?
 - What does it mean to "be ready"?
 - What is the duty we have as the Body of Christ?
 - How should this teaching affect us as the Body of Christ in this world?
 - How do you measure up?
- **Matthew 25: 1-13 — Parable of the 10 Virgins**
 - How does this parable of keeping oil in the lamps apply to us?
 - Why is it important to "keep watching"? What are we watching for?
 - What does it mean for be irresponsible and fall asleep, then scramble at the last minute?
 - What is the duty we have as the Body of Christ?
 - How should this parable affect us as the Body of Christ in this world?
 - How do you measure up?
- **Matthew 25:14-30 — Parable of the Bags of Gold, or "Talents"**
 - Who owns the property?
 - What are the people of God given that is of such great value?
 - What does it mean to be unfaithful and "lazy" as it relates to this parable?
 - What is the responsibility of Kingdom of God citizens?
 - What is the duty we have as the Body of Christ?
 - How should this parable affect us as the Body of Christ in this world?
 - How do you measure up?
- **Matthew 25:31-46 — Parable of the Sheep and the Goats**
 - What does it mean: "When the Son of Man comes..."?
 - Who are the sheep in this parable and what do they live for?
 - Who are the goats in this parable and what do they live for?
 - What is the duty we have as the Body of Christ, as his ambassadors in this broken world?
 - How should this parable affect us as the Body of Christ in this world?

What are warning signs to watch for in your life and in this church body?

PREPARE FOR NEXT SUNDAY: Read Acts 27-28