

The Nature of the Church

Ephesians 3:4-21

We believe that the Church of Jesus Christ is composed solely of born-again people who have been called out from among the Jews and Gentiles to become the Body and Bride of our Lord.

- Acts 15:14
- The universal body of Christ is made up of all true believers
- Hebrews 12:23
- The local body of Christ is made up of professed believers
- What is true about the universal church is also true of the local church

Christ glorified in Heaven is its Head and the Holy Spirit on earth is the active agent of the God-head who ever seeks to bring about within its ranks conformity and obedience to the Word of God and the Will of God.

- Colossians 1:18
- Christ is the head of the universal and local church
- Ephesians 5:23b
- Ephesians 1:22-23
- The Holy Spirit is at work among the local churches to empower us to grow in Christ
- Romans 15:13

The one body unites believers to each other, and all to Christ;

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-13
- If we are united to Christ, then we are united with each other

and its chief purpose of existence is to evangelize the world and to complete itself through the winning lost souls to Christ.

- 2 Corinthians 5:18-20
- Romans 1:16
- Matthew 28:19-20
- Christ's last command is to be our first concern