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Section: Doctrine of the Church (Ecclesiology)

Teacher: Steven Obert

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**HANDOUT NOTES**

**Q103. How does the Church live in this world?**

**The Church lives as worshipers of Jesus who make disciples, giving glory to God in all things.**

**Romans 11:36** For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

**Psalm 105:1-3** Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

**Psalm 96:1-5, 10** Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples! For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens…. Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.”

**Q104. What is the Great Commission Jesus gave to His Church?**

He commissions His Church to be discipled and make disciples among all nations

**Matthew 28:18-20** And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

We need to realize that a person can only disciple another to the degree they have been discipled.

**Q105. How do we honor the Great Commission?**

Based on the Bible, we follow and learn from mature Christians, and we teach others to rightly know and obey Jesus.

**Discipleship:** The process of following and learning from more mature Christians and doing the work of disciple-making ourselves: calling people to saving faith, then training them in sound doctrine and how to live as imitators of Christ.

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**Proverbs 1:7** The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction.

**Proverbs 15:32** Whoever ignores instruction despises himself, but he who listens to reproof gains intelligence.

**Ecclesiastes 7:5** It is better for a man to hear the rebuke of the wise than to hear the song of fools.

**Proverbs 27:6 F**aithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.

* **Overview and Vision**

God has a beautiful design in discipleship for His glory and the good of His people.

**Luke 14:25-33** Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.”

**Philippians 1:20-21** as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

**Philippians 3:7-11** But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith- that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Discipleship is a willingness to prioritize one’s life to being taught and mentored and trained up to be more like Christ.

* **Sunday Worship**

Sunday worship is the most primary way that we gather as the body of Christ to be equipped by our shepherds in the teaching of God’s word, in fellowship, in celebrating the Lord’s Supper, and Baptism.

**Hebrews 10:24-25** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

**Ephesians 4:11-14** And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

**Hebrews 13:17** Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you.

* **Midweek Gathering**

The focus of Midweek is to abide in Christ and His word corporately (together) through sound teaching and organized community.

**2 Timothy 2:2** (NASB) The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

**Titus 2:3-5** Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.

**Ephesians 4:25** Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.

**Romans 15:14** I myself am satisfied about you, my brothers, that you yourselves are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge and able to instruct one another.

**Colossians 3:16** Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom ...

* **Further Growth Discipleship**

This is a walking together in the context of meeting (in addition to Midweek) with a leader personally or in a small group.

This Further Growth Discipleship is for those interested and able to go deeper. There is a commitment to additional time to study and growing with a leader.

* **Leadership Discipleship**

The fullest layer of discipleship seeks to ready individuals for *certain roles of leadership* in God’s church—roles such as: group leading, formal teaching, leadership disciple-making, church planting, missionary work, eldership, etc.