



How Christianity Happens in a Local Church?

Colossians 3:12-17

October 17, 2021

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this sermon we look at the three ways the Bible expects Christians to be involved in a local church.

The Text: Colossians 3:12-17

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. ¹⁷ And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Since Christianity “happens” in the local church, here are three ways you can make sure you are being fully biblical and healthily Christian.

(1) *GATHER* – make a personal commitment to a local church.

Hebrews 10:24-25: ²⁴And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ 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.

(2) *GROW* – make a spiritual commitment to a local church.

The local church should be the place where you ground and “do” your Christian life.

(3) *GIVE* – make a ministry commitment to a local church.

The Three T's:

Time

Talent

Treasure

Response

If you are a member or regular attender, Hope Church is where God has called you to *Gather*, *Grow*, and *Give* as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Sunday Text Questions for Colossians 3:12-17 (“I Will Build My Church” Series)

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- 1) Starter Question: How has this sermon series helped you understand the importance of the local church?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) How does a person obey Paul’s commands to “put on ... kindness, humility” (v. 12) and “let peace rule/word of Christ dwell ... in you” (vv. 15, 16)?
- 4) How do the commands “bearing with one another” and “forgiving each other” (v. 13) require regular participation and relationships in a local church?
- 5) Why do you think Paul emphasizes “harmony” and the fact that Christians in a local church “were called in one body” (vv. 14-15)?
- 6) How can a Christian obey and put into practice the command in v. 16 to “teach and admonish one another?”
- 7) How do you react to the following statement: “Christianity *happens* in the local church?”
- 8) What does it look like to make a *personal* commitment to a local church (“Gather”)?
- 9) What does it look like to make a *spiritual* commitment to a local church (“Grow”)?
- 10) What does it look like to make a *ministry* commitment to a local church (“Give”)?

Further study this week: Passages on spiritual growth and maturity: Hebrews 6:1 (Mon); 1 Peter 2:2-3 (Tues); Colossians 1:9-10 (Wed); 2 Peter 1:5-8 (Thurs); Hebrews 5:12-14 (Fri).