



**Sermon Notes** | February 12, 2023

**Title:** I Will Treasure Church Membership as a Gift

**Text:** Acts 2:37-47

What kind of gift is it?

**Matthew 7:7-11; James 1:16-18; Ephesians 3:8-12; 1 John 3:1**

**Thom Rainer:** "When we receive the gift of \_\_\_\_\_, we become part of the body of Christ...Membership in the body of Christ, the church, is a \_\_\_\_\_ from God."

What else is included in this gift?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

**Galatians 3:26-29** | ...There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ Jesus...

2. \_\_\_\_\_

**John 8:36** | "So if the Son sets you free, you really will be free."

**Galatians 5:1** | For freedom, Christ set us free. Stand firm, then, and don't submit again to a yoke of slavery.

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 16:16-18** | ...on this rock I will build my \_\_\_\_\_, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it."

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**Ecclesiastes 4:9-12** | Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their efforts. For if either falls, his companion can lift him up; but pity the one who falls without another to lift him up. Also, if two lie down together, they can keep warm; but how can one person alone keep warm? And if someone

overpowers one person, two can resist  
A cord of \_\_\_\_\_ strands  
not easily broken.

**NEXT STEPS**

Go to [tulipstreet.com/nextsteps](http://tulipstreet.com/nextsteps)

Or scan the QR code for instant access



him.  
is

**Going Deeper** | Study & Discussion Questions (from the book)

1. How does the gift of salvation relate to the gift of church membership?
2. Why do many church members have a sense of entitlement? What does the Bible say about that?
3. Explain how Christians are in both the universal church and in the local church.
4. Read the entire story of Jesus' rebuking His disciples in **Matthew 20:20-28**. How could that story relate to church membership?
5. For your last question, look at each part of the entire membership covenant you have reviewed to this point. As you look at the entire covenant, what areas will be your greatest challenge? In what areas can you make immediate changes?

**The Sixth Pledge:**

I am a church member.

*This membership is a gift. When I was baptized and received the free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ, I became a part of the body of Christ. I soon thereafter identified with a local body. And now I am humbled and honored to serve and to love others in our church. I pray that I will never take my membership for granted, but see it as a gift and an opportunity to serve others and to be a part of something so much greater than any one person or member.*

Sign & date

\_\_\_\_\_