



Title: I Will Be a Functioning Church Member

Text: 1 Corinthians 12-14

Church Membership = _____ + _____ + _____

“...you yourselves, as living _____, are being _____ to be a holy priesthood...” **1 Peter 2:4-5**

What are some things church membership **DOESN'T** mean?

What Church Membership Means:

1. We are all _____ parts of the whole
(see **1 Corinthians 12:4-7**)

God leads us to a church where we are _____, where our gifts and talents can be put to use for the common good. Each one of us has something _____ to offer

2. We are _____ but we still work _____
(see **1 Corinthians 12:17-20 & Ephesians 2:13-15**)

The goal is _____, not uniformity.

3. Everything we say and do is based on a biblical foundation of _____.
(see **1 Corinthians 13**)

“Loved places become _____ places.

Loved people become _____ people.” -Tim Thompson

4. Church membership is _____ membership.
(see **1 Corinthians 14:24-26**)

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

1. Explain how country club membership and church membership are so different. Give scriptural references to support the difference in church membership.
2. Explain why church membership is a biblical concept using 1 Cor. 12 as your biblical foundation.
3. How is the “love chapter,” 1 Corinthians 13, related to church membership?
4. How are the different parts of the body (ear, nose, mouth, hand, foot, eyes, etc.) related to church membership? How do the parts play out in your church?
5. In addition to church membership, why is it important for members to know and use their spiritual gifts? Relate your answer to 1 Cor. 12.

The First Pledge:

I am a church member.

I like the metaphor of membership. It’s not membership as in a civic organization or a country club, It’s the kind of membership given to us in 1 Corinthians 12: “Now you are the body of Christ, and individual members of it” (1 Cor. 12:27). Because I am a member of the body of Christ, I must be a functioning member, whether I am an “eye,” an “ear,” or a “hand.” As a functioning member, I will give. I will serve. I will minister. I will evangelize. I will study. I will seek to be a blessing to others. I will remember that “if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it” (1 Cor. 12:26).

Sign & date _____