

## What is the church?

Introduction: "What is the church?" And another question, "what does the church do?"

Often people's descriptions reflect the church as an \_\_\_\_\_: "I'm going to church."

1. It has policies, practices, routines
2. It is a place
3. It is an organisation

But church is better thought of as a \_\_\_\_\_.

1. It is about people
2. It happens everywhere.
3. It is an action.

**You** are doing the service, and serving.

In the NT the church is never a physical building.

1. The church as a temple (Eph 2:20-21)
  - A. Temples were buildings that took decades to build.

B. You are living stones being built up to a temple of the Lord.

2. The church as a body (1 Cor 12:12-27; Eph 4:11-16; Rom 12:4-5; Col 1:18, 2:19)

A. You are a member of the body of Christ.

B. The parts of the body are different and have different functions.

C. The church grows as an organism (Eph 4:15-16)

i. We grow into our head

ii. We rely on each other to grow

Conclusion: