



A Letter to a Church about the Church

Ephesians 1:1-2
Pastor Matt Kottman
September 3, 2023

1. A Letter to a Church

2. A Letter About the Church

a. The Church's Significance

b. The Church's Union

c. The Church's Unity

d. The Church's Purpose

e. The Church's Position

f. The Church's Practice

3. A Letter with Limitless Depth

a. A Letter that Is Beyond Us

b. A Letter that Wrestles with Us

c. A Letter that Speaks to the Head, Heart, and Hands

Discussion & Application Questions

1. Ephesians is a book about the Church. We often hear of problems in this or that church. What experiences with the church have shaped your view? Locally? Worldwide? Do you tend to be cynical of the church or hopeful for the church?
2. In Sunday's sermon, we heard about the significance of the church described in Ephesians. Look at some of the statements below and their references. How do these truths challenge or strengthen your understanding of the church?
 - a. Christ is head of the Church (1:22)
 - b. The Church is his body (1:23; 3:6; 4:12, 16; 5:30)
 - c. The Church is one new man (2:15)
 - d. The Church is our citizenship (2:19)
 - e. The Church is our family (2:19; 6:23)
 - f. The Church is built on the Word of God (2:20)
 - g. The Church is a temple indwelt by the Spirit (2:21-22)
 - h. The Church is the means to making known God's manifold wisdom in the heavenly places (3:10)
 - i. The Church is God's eternal purpose (3:11)
 - j. The Church is a place for God's eternal glory (3:21)
 - k. The Church is built in love (4:16)
 - l. The Church is Christ's Bride (5:23)
 - m. Christ loves his Church (5:25)
 - n. Christ died for his Church (5:25)
 - o. Christ purifies the Church with his Word (5:26)
 - p. Christ presents his Church in beauty (5:27)
 - q. Christ nourishes and cherishes the Church (5:29)
 - r. Christ is united to his Church (5:31-32)
3. Read the article on Theological Triage. How has this helped you to think through areas of doctrinal difference? Have you tended to hold all your doctrines with the same weight/importance? What happens to the most important doctrines when we hold all doctrines as equally important?
4. Ephesians is "A letter that wrestles with us." What is an example of your experience wrestling with Scripture? Was it a slow process? Are you still willing for your views to be challenged by Scripture? How can you be gracious toward those around you who hold differing views or are wrestling with Scripture?