



EXPERIENCING
GOD

EXPERIENCING GOD BIBLE STUDY

Unit 10: God's Will and the Church

- 1 The Church**
- 2 Discerning God's Will as a Body**
- 3 The Body of Christ, Part 1**
- 4 The Body of Christ, Part 2**
- 5 Life in the Body**


Daily Capstones

- 1 – When a church allows God's presence and activity to be expressed, a watching world will be drawn to Him.*
- 2 – A church comes to know the will of God when the whole body understands what Christ – the Head – is telling it.*
- 3 – A church needs to learn to function as the body of Christ.*
- 4 – I understand the will of God for my church when I listen to the whole body express what they are experiencing in the life of that body.*
- 5 – Right relationships with God are far more important than buildings, budgets, programs, methods, church personnel, size, or anything else.*

Principles

- God wants His people to be holy and pure. God wants His people to display unity. God wants His people to love one another.
- See page 202 for principles of how God works within His church.
- The Head does the convincing on His timetable.
- The right question is "How many of you sense God is clearly directing us to proceed in this direction as a body?"
- As a body we must wait on God's timing.
- The Holy Spirit is the Gift.
- A church needs all the members God has given the body.
- God decides where someone should function in the body.

Summary Statements

- 1 – A church is on mission with Christ in our world carrying out the Father's redemptive purposes.
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“IN CHRIST WE WHO ARE MANY FORM ONE BODY, AND EACH MEMBER BELONGS TO ALL THE OTHERS.”

ROMANS 12:5

- 1 – No one individual has the total vision for God's will for a local church.
- 1– Sharing what God is doing in my life may help someone else encounter God in a meaningful way.
- 2 A church comes to know God's will when the whole body understands what Christ – the Head – is telling it. Every believer has direct access to God.
- 2– Individual opinions are not that important. God's will is crucial.
- 2 – A church must learn to function as a body with Christ as the Head of His church. A church must wait on God's timing.
- 3– A spiritual gift is a manifestation of the Holy Spirit at work in and through a person's life for the common good of the body of Christ. The Spirit decides whom to give assignments and enables spiritual leaders and members to accomplish His work.
- 3 – God puts spiritual leaders and members in the body where He wants them to be. Members of the body should have equal concern for one another.
- 4 – Godlike love ought to prevail in the body. Each member is precious to God.
- 4 – I understand God's will for my church when I listen to the whole body express what it is experiencing in the life of that body.
- 5 – Right relationships with God are far more important than buildings, budgets, programs, methods, church personnel, size, or anything else.
- 5 – God doesn't add members to the body accidentally. I will pay close attention to the people God adds.

Scriptures of Importance

I Corinthians 12:7-31 • Ephesians 4:11-16 • Matthew 28:18-20
II Corinthians 5:17-20 • Numbers 9:1-5 • Acts 15:1-35 •
I Corinthians 1:10 • Romans 15:5-6 • Romans 12:9-21
John 14:10 • John 17:20-21 • Ephesians 4:11-13