

# Authentic Christianity

STUDY 06

SIMPLICITY  
IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE  
AND  
IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

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# "Authentic Christianity"

## Study 6 SIMPLICITY IN CHRISTIAN LIFE AND IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

### Simplicity in the Christian Life

Baptism is the turning point, the beginning of a new life.

Acts 3:19 Therefore you must repent and turn, so that your sins might be blotted out

Romans 6:4 Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

You should then continue to learn from the New Testament more about the Lord Jesus to become increasingly like Him in your life.

2 Pet. 1:3 Just as his divine power has given to us all things that relate to life and piety, through the knowledge of him who has called us by his glory and virtue:

He also wants you to worship with others whom He has also added to His church.

Hebrews 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together ...

Acts 2:42 And they continued steadfastly **in: the apostles' teaching and the sharing, and the breaking of the bread, and the prayers.**

### Simplicity in the Local Church

In the Bible the word "church" is never used of a building. It always refers to people.

1 Thessalonians 1:1 Paul, and Silvanus, and Timotheus, to the church of the Thessalonians which is in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ

Galatians 1:13 For you have heard .. how .. I persecuted the church of God, ... (also Philippians 3:6)

He did not persecute a building. He persecuted people. The church is the people. The building they worship in is not the church

You do not need a building to be a proper church. The first Christians did not have church buildings. The earliest churches met in houses and in hired rooms, wherever it was convenient. They were, none the less, real, fully fledged churches, the Lord's churches.

Romans 16:5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house .... ,

Philemon 2 ... to the church in your house:

The Bible attaches no importance whatsoever to church buildings. On the other hand the church which is His body of people is so important to the Lord Jesus that He died for it. He did not die for buildings.

Ephesians 5:25 ... even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

There is the universal church which the Lord is building from living stones, that is people.

Matthew 16:18 ...I will build my church;....

1 Peter 2:5 You also, as living stones, are built up into a spiritual house ... by Jesus Christ.

Then there are groups meeting in different places throughout the world. These are His local churches.

Romans 16:16 ... The churches of Christ salute you.

Colossians 4:15 .. the church ... in his house

Only those that the Lord has added to His universal church can legitimately be members of one of His local churches.

Acts. 2:41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added to them about three thousand souls. 42 **And they** continued steadfastly in: the apostles' teaching and the sharing, and the breaking of the bread, and the prayers.

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### TEST EXERCISE

In a letter to your friend explain from the Bible how a Christian should live and worship.

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