

# How to Find the Right Church

**Introduction:** In a society that is made up of over one thousand religious groups finding the right church can be quite a challenge. Can it be done? The answer is yes. It's a lot like finding a car in a big parking lot. If you know the identifying characteristics (make, model, color, tag, serial number, etc.) you can find it. We have the identifying characteristics of the Lord's church in the New Testament. These must be compared to the churches of our day. When we find the church that matches we have found the right church. What are these identifying characteristics of the Lord's church as found in the New Testament?

## I. The plan of salvation.

- A. Hear (Romans 10:17).
- B. Believe (Acts 16:31).
- C. Repent (Acts 17:30).
- D. Confess Christ (Acts 8:37; Romans 10:9,10).
- E. Be baptized (Acts 2:38).

## II. The worship of the church.

- A. Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7).
- B. Giving (I Corinthians 16:1,2).
- C. Singing (I Corinthians 14:15; Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 2:12).
- D. Praying (Acts 2:42).
- E. Preaching (Acts 20:7).

## III. The organization of the church.

- A. Christ is the Head of the Church (Ephesians 1:22,23; Colossians 1:18).
- B. No earthly headquarters.
- C. Each congregation is autonomous, self governed with bishops and deacons (Philippians 1:1; I Timothy 3:1-13).

## IV. Men have the leadership roles.

- A. Men are to be the bishops (I Timothy 3:1).
- B. Men are to be the deacons (I Timothy 3:12).
- C. Men are to be the preachers (I Corinthians 14:34; I Timothy 2:11,12).

**Conclusion:** Find the church today that has the same identifying characteristics and you have found the right church. All it takes is a little examination.

*Ken Tyler*