

Practical questions on church membership

1. Why is it important?

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Introduction

- What does "membership" mean?
- Why are we moving towards this?

Church membership is biblical

- NT Evidence (Acts 2:47, 5:12-13, 1 Tim. 5:9-10, 2 Cor. 2:6)
- Church discipline (1 Cor. 5:9-13)
- Church leadership (Acts 20:28, Heb. 13:17)

Church membership is important

- For those who aren't Christians (John 13:35)
- For other Christians (Rom. 12:10, 15:17, Eph. 4:32, Col. 3:13, 1 Pet. 3:8, 4:9, Heb. 10:25)
- For your leaders (Heb. 13:17)
- For yourself (Heb. 3:13)
- For God (Acts 9:4)

Conclusion

Acts 9v1-9

¹ Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. ³ As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

⁵ "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. ⁶ "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

⁷ The men travelling with Saul stood there speechless; they heard the sound but did not see anyone. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, but when he opened his eyes he could see nothing. So they led him by the hand into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was blind, and did not eat or drink anything.

Some resources on church membership

Jonathan Leeman, "*Church Membership*" (book, available on the bookstall)

Mark Dever, "*Nine Marks of a Healthy Church*" (book, available on the bookstall)

Matt Chandler, "*Is Church Membership Biblical?*" (two page article, available on the welcome table)

Church Membership – FAQs (booklet, available on the welcome table)