

Making it Mine

A Bible study for kids ready to grow a faith of their own.

Month 6 Week 1

WHAT IS CHURCH?

In the New Testament, a special Greek word, ekklesia, was used for church. It is not used to refer to a building, but to the people who are following Christ. The temple that the Jews knew as God’s dwelling place, became **obsolete** with the coming of Christ, and in fact was destroyed in 70 A.D. The New Testament Christians met in homes, and continued to do so for 300 years until the Roman Emperor Constantine began to build structures that were actually an imitation of the pagan culture around them. (Viola and Barna 9-43)

READ:

Ephesians

Heart graffiti:

“**Submit** to one another out of **reverence** for Christ.”
Eph.5:21

submit means:

reverence means:

What does 1 Corinthians 3:16 say about God’s holy temple?

When we invite someone to church, what are we inviting them to? _____

Where is the church? _____

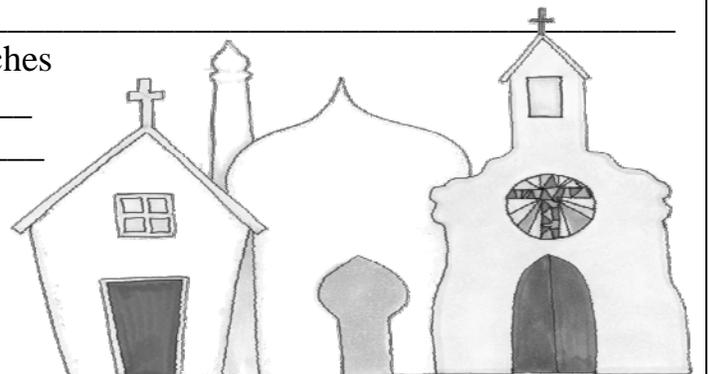
Where is your family? _____

How are church and family the same? _____

How is the church Christ’s body? _____

How many churches are there? _____

obsolete means:



DOING CHURCH Eph. 1-4

When were we chosen by God? _____

For what were we chosen? _____

What made Paul thankful for the Ephesians? _____

What is the church according to Eph. 1:22-23? _____

What has God created for us in advance? _____

What household are we members of? _____

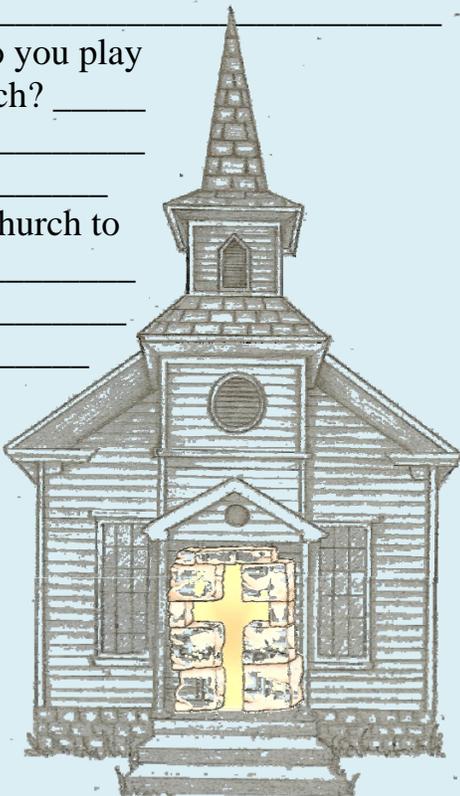
What do Christians all have in common? _____

What were the different abilities and roles given for? _____

What part do you play in your church? _____

How is the church to grow? _____

How can we grieve the Holy Spirit in how we treat each other? _____



A NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH

Christians have been meeting together for almost 2,000 years now. There have been times that we have lost sight of what the church is about, and gotten sidetracked. When we try to be like the New Testament church, which are the things that we want to imitate? _____

The New Testament church did not have buildings, pews, air conditioning, or drinking fountains. Do you think we should be like them in every way? _____

A LIFE OF LOVE Eph. 5

What does Eph. 5:2 say about living as God's children? _____

What is included in the list of things that are improper for God's children? _____

What is the fruit of the light? _____

How are we to speak to each other? _____

Who do we honor when we submit to each other? _____

Describe an example of submitting to another: _____

What does Christ do for the church? _____

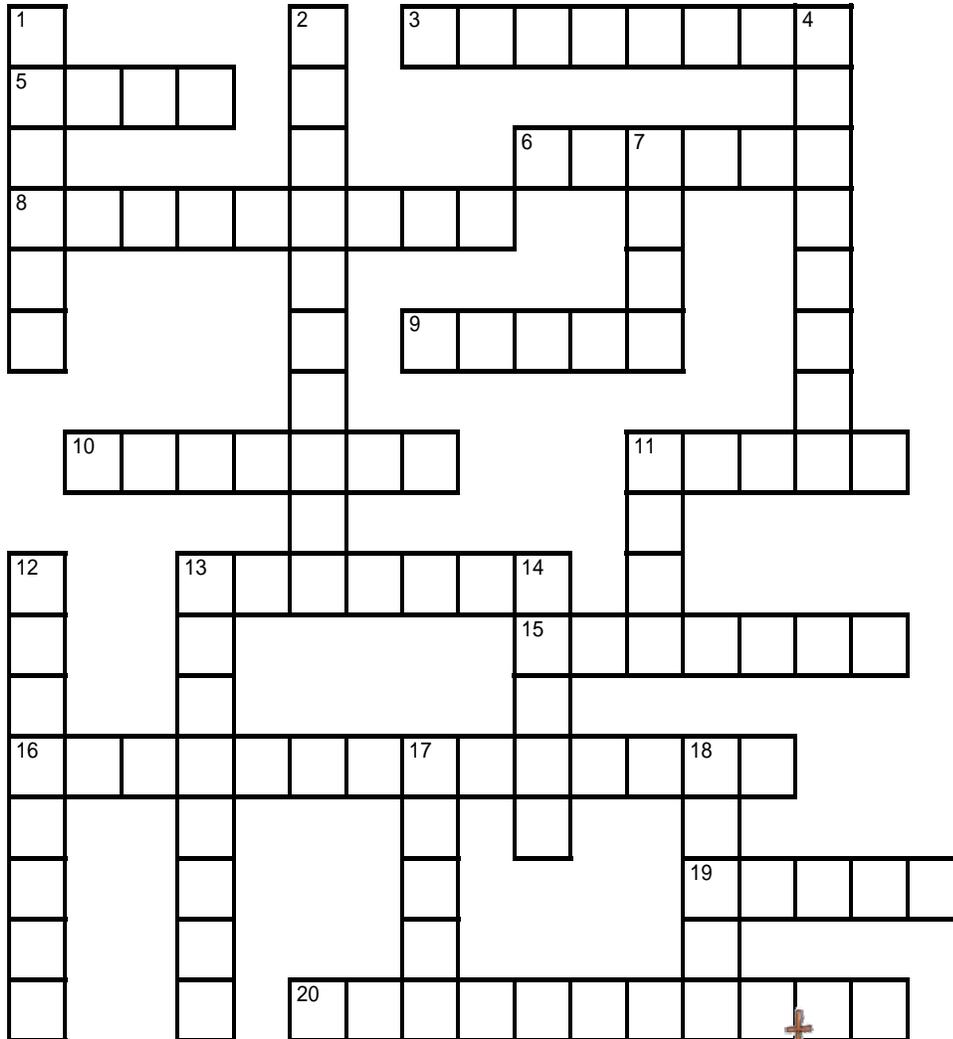
How can we take part in that? _____

How is the relationship of Christ with His church compared to a marriage? _____



PUZZLE PAGE

CHURCH -from Ephesians and this handout



Across

- 3. the Greek word for church
- 5. the New Testament church did not have these
- 6. what the body does out of reverence for Christ
- 8. part of our armor
- 9. we should make every for this
- 10. pastors and teachers prepare the people for this
- 11. Christians met here for 300 years
- 13. our talk should do this for those who listen
- 15. how Christ presents the church
- 16. how we are to serve
- 19. we are all saved through this
- 20. Jesus is ours

Down

- 1. fills the church
- 2. the apostles and prophets
- 4. taught to have a new one
- 7. we are Christ's
- 11. Christ is the _____ of the church
- 12. where church can happen
- 13. not what the church is
- 14. should be the fruit of the church
- 17. we are to wear God's
- 18. the church is this in the darkness



TIPS for parents and teachers

Submit means:

to accept somebody else's authority or will

Reverence means:

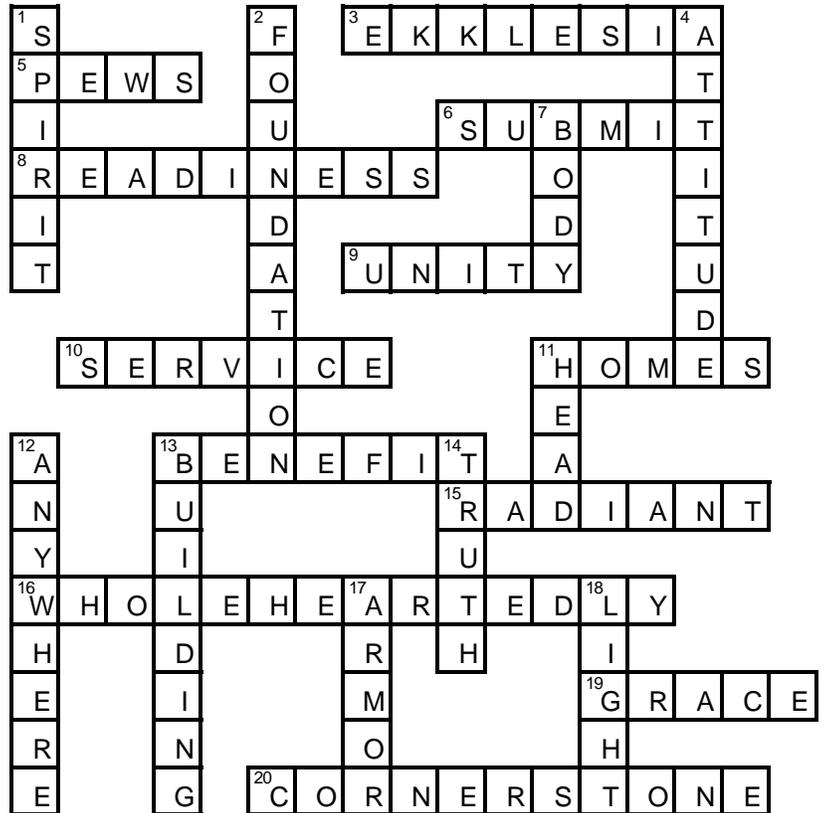
feelings of deep respect or devotion

Obsolete means:

superseded by something newer, though possibly still in use

CHURCH PUZZLE:

Make a simple church out of poster board and cut into puzzle pieces. Give each student one or two pieces. Is it still a church when the pieces aren't all together?



WANT TO READ WHAT I READ?

We will be talking about church and different religions this month. Here is some reading that you might find helpful.

CHURCH HISTORY:

Hughes, Richard T.. Reviving the Ancient Faith. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1996.

Viola, Frank, and George Barna. Pagan Christianity?: Exploring the Roots of Our Christian Practices. 2nd. Tyndale House Publishers, 2008.

DEALING WITH OTHER RELIGIONS:

Spraggett, Daphne, and Jill Johnston. Window on the World. London: Three's Company, 2001.

Bold Believers in Iraq. Bartlesville, OK: LINK International, 2004.