

## **WHY CHURCH MATTERS**

### **Key scripture: Eph 1:22-23, Heb 10:25**

The original Greek for church is *ekklesia* meant "a gathering, assembly" and is the basis for our word "congregation." And that is what God designed the church to be—a group of people. The church is the people, not the building, so the truest meaning of the word "church" is the group of believers.

Christ is the head of the church, and the church is the body of Christ. The members of the body are all Christians. The universal church is defined as all who have received the Holy Spirit, no matter their location, denomination, or era. To ensure order and to provide fellowship, the universal church is also divided into local churches.

The key thing to note is that the church is not a building but a group of people and it has a purpose.

### **Discussion Points**

1. What do you understand a church to be? *1Corth. 12:12-14, Eph. 1:22-23.*
2. What are the functions of a church? *Eph 4:11-13, Heb 13:17, Matthew 18:15-17*
3. Why do you need a good church family? *Eph 4:16, Heb 3:13, Eph 2:10, 1 Corth 12:7, John 13:35*
4. Why do you like your church?