

What In the World Is the Church?

1. The word “church” means “called out”. i.e., those who are called out of the world into God’s earthy kingdom.
 - A. The Church is in the world but not of the world.
Jn. 15:18-19, 17:14-16, 18:36
 - B. The word “church” appears in the gospels only 3 times. From Acts thru Revelation, it appears 77 times and the word “churches” 37 times.

2. The Church was originally referred to as the Kingdom of Heaven by both John the Baptist and Jesus. **Matt. 3:1-2, 4:17**
 - A. It was prophesied of by Daniel. **Dan. 2:44, Dan. 7:13-14, 27**
 - B. The Kingdom of Heaven (The Church) would be
 - 1) A Spiritual Kingdom. **Lk. 17:20-21, Rom. 14:17**
 - 2) Jesus described The Church’s characteristics as being similar to natural things.
 1. **Matt. 13:24, 31, 33; 18:3-4, 23; 20:1;22:1**

3. The function of The Church is to reach, teach, and worship God.
 - A. To reach: It is God’s divine plan that we reach out to the lost and bring them to Christ.
Jn. 15:5,8; Mk. 16:15, Matt. 28:19-20
 - 1) We must always keep our own feet on solid ground.
 - 2) We must reach them with the word.
 - B. To teach: The church ministry must continue teaching the Word of God to The Church. **II Tim. 3:16, I Tim. 4:15-16**
 - C. To worship: The Church must always push ahead in worship. We must never draw back from praising God. **Psalms 150**