

1. Why Do We Come to Church?

Matthew 28:19-20/Mark 1:1-8/Acts 2:42-47

“To worship God who is our Creator, Savior, and Redeemer.”

Not for: Social comfort/Entertainment/Personal agenda/“Fun”

But for:

- **Worship** — turning our whole being toward God
- **Reconnection** — religion as *religare*, “to bind again”
- **Confession** — acknowledging we are sinners
- **Relationship** — returning to the One who made and redeemed us

Romans 3:23 — “*All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*”

We come because we are **lost, broken, and in need of grace.**

2. The Purpose of Life

“To give glory to God. To have an intimate relationship with God and others.”

Biblical Purpose:

- **Glorify God** — 1 Corinthians 10:31
- **Do good works** — Ephesians 2:10
- **Walk humbly** — Micah 6:8
- **Love God & neighbor** — Mark 12:30–31

Life is not about achievement or self-fulfillment. It is about **knowing God, loving God, and reflecting His glory.**

3. Falling Short of the Glory of God

“Sin is missing the mark... losing the divine image... failing to give God honor.”

What is sin?

Missing the mark (*hamartia*)/Losing God’s image/Failing to honor God

But God’s response:

Romans 3:24–26 — We are **justified freely** by grace through Christ.

The Church is the place where we remember:

We are sinners/Christ is Savior/Grace is given/New life begins

4. The Purpose of the Church (*Ekklesia*)

“*Ekklesia* = the called-out ones.”

Church is: Not a building, Not an event, Not a club

Church is: A called-out people/A holy community/A Kingdom assembly/

A body with authority to represent Christ

The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20)

Go/Make disciples/Baptize/Teach obedience/Trust His presence

The Church exists to **form disciples who transform the world.**

5. What Should We Do in the Church? — Five Biblical Functions

1) Worship — *Liturgia*

Exodus 20:8, Offering praise/Turning to God on behalf of the world/Rooting our lives in God's holiness

2) Proclamation — *Kerygma*

Mark 1:14–15, Preaching the gospel/Calling for repentance/Announcing the Kingdom/Sharing Christ's salvation

3) Training — *Didache*

Ephesians 4:20, Learning Christ/Being formed as apprentices of Jesus/Living the biblical story/Practicing discipleship

4) Fellowship — *Koinonia*

John 13:34, Loving one another/Practicing hospitality/Sharing life/Seeking forgiveness and reconciliation/Living as a community of truth and compassion

5) Service — *Diakonia*

John 13:5, Serving like Jesus/Caring for the vulnerable/Meeting needs/Living sacrificially/Becoming Christ's hands and feet

6. The Role of the Pastor (UMC)

Four Core Responsibilities:

1. **Word** — preaching, teaching, proclaiming
2. **Sacrament** — baptism & communion
3. **Order** — guiding the life and mission of the church
4. **Service** — pastoral care, outreach, justice

Pastors call people to **repent, follow Jesus, and grow in holiness.**

7. Conclusion: Why We Come to Church

- To worship God/To receive grace/To be formed as disciples
- To love one another/To serve the world/To join God's mission
- To live for His glory

The Church is where **God gathers His people**, shapes them, and sends them out.