

Membership 101:

The calling: (Understanding God's plan of joining together)

- Nation
- Church

Membership:

1. **being a member of something:** the state or condition belonging to a particular group, for example, a species, social class, team, club, or political party
2. **members of an organization:** the members of a group, for example, a species, social class, organization, or mathematical set, considered collectively

Bible definition:

- A body part, limb, organ
- Someone who is part of a larger unit



Importance of the body:

- Romans 12:4-5
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Traps people get into:

1. **Afraid of commitment (Don't want to feel obligated)**
2. **Over commitment**
3. **Floating kidneys (never committing & always wandering)**
4. **Unforgiveness toward past experiences.**
 - "Once hurt - twice shy"
 - a. **They always have to tell their story**
 - b. **Give people grace to grow (learn from mistakes)**
5. **Shopping cart mentality – Looking for perfect church**
 - **God put me into your life to perfect you.**
 - **He put you into my life to perfect me.**
6. **Card slot (Do just enough to get by)**
7. **Plugging, unplugging – Never really being fruitful**
8. **Compromised beliefs – They attend a church for programs, not because they like the anointing, doctrine, etc.**

Benefits:

- Commitment & stability
- Finding purpose & fruitfulness (Ephesians 4:11-16)
- Ministry & personal support (Acts 2:42-43; 46-47)

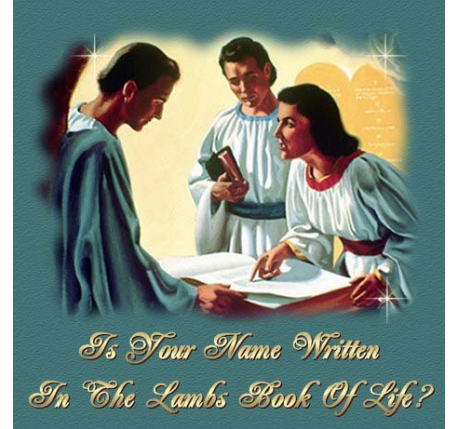
Psalm 92:13 Those who are planted in the house of the LORD
Shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Before you flourish - You are planted



Challenge of today's pastor:

- Less fear of God
- Importance of attending fellowship and commitment in a local body is put down



God says it is *He* who places the members in the body (Cor. 12:18) and that we each need to submit to the Godly leaders whom He has placed over us in the local church (Heb. 13:7,17, 1 Thes. 5:12)

He calls us to meet with fellow believers for worship, teaching and edification. (Heb. 10:24-25) and to use the gifting He has placed within us to bless others. This, in turn is when we are the most blessed!

As a born-again, child of God, the most important roll to have our name on is the Lamb's Book of Life (Luke 10:20), and when we are, we become a family. "For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body." If that is the case, how do you join yourselves to a local body?

We believe the first step is by commitment, letting the Lord plant our roots deep so we can grow and become fruitful. (Col. 1:10, 2:6, Eph. 3:17). If you feel that God has placed you to become a part of this body, please let us know and we will help you find your place of ministry.