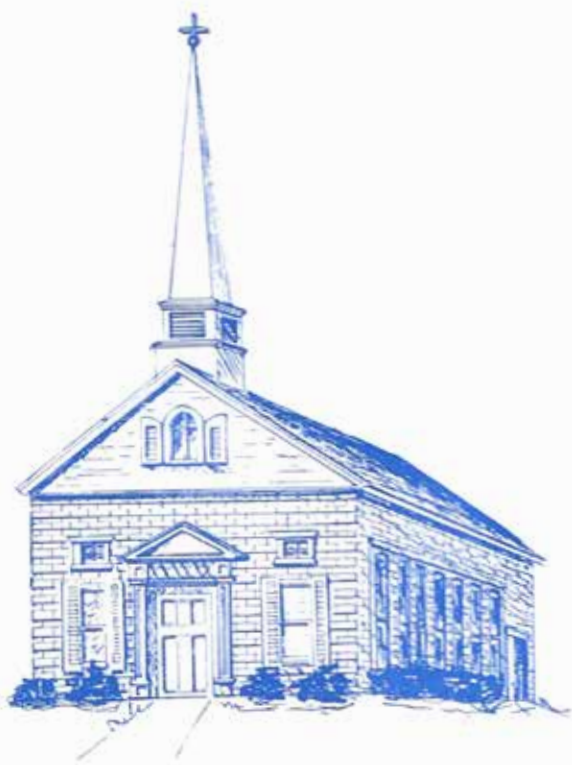


God Says...
You Need
The Local
Church!



GOD SAYS... YOU NEED THE LOCAL CHURCH!

God commands the Christian not to forsake the assembling of himself together with other believers in the local church. (Heb. 10:24,25) There are many important reasons for this. Through the ministry of the local church you will grow spiritually. You will become a stronger Christian in the following areas of your life:

1. Assurance of salvation — knowing for sure that you are going to heaven. Jn. 1:12, 3:16, 5:24, 10:9; Rom. 10:9,13; I Jn. 5:13
2. Believers baptism — the first step of obedience to Christ. Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 2:41, 8:36-38; Rom. 6:2-5; Jas. 4:17
3. Bible study — knowing God's plan and purpose for your life. II Tim. 2:15; Rom. 10:17; Heb. 4:12; I Pet. 2:2,3; II Pet. 3:18; Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:1-3
4. Prayer — talking to God. Jn. 16:24; I Jn. 1:8-10; Matt. 7:7,8; Jn. 14:13,14; Eph. 5:20; I Thess. 5:18; Phil. 4:6,7; Jas. 5:16-18; Jer. 33:3; Ps. 81:10
5. Fellowship — mutual friendship and encouragement with other Christians. Acts 2:42, 4:32-37; Heb. 10:24
6. Surrender — submission to God's will in your life. Rom. 12:1,2; Eph. 5:16; Luke 9:23; Rom. 6:13; I Cor. 6:19,20; Prov. 27:1
7. Separation — living a pure, victorious life. I Jn. 2:15-17; Jas. 4:4; Rom. 12:2; II Cor. 6:14-18; I Cor. 10:31; Col. 3:17
8. Stewardship — proper use of time, talent and money (possessions and resources). Matt. 6:33; Luke 6:38; Eph. 5:16; II Cor. 9:6,7; Mal. 3:10
9. Soul winning — winning your ac-

quaintances to Christ. Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Mark 16:15; Jn. 15:16; II Cor. 5:20; Ps. 126:5,6

WHAT IS A LOCAL NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH?

As defined in the New Testament it is a group of born-again believers. These believers have been scripturally baptized (immersed) and meet together regularly. Their purpose is to carry out Christ's great commission (Matt. 28:19,20). Their beliefs and practices are based entirely on the Bible. Those who minister in the local church are:

Pastors — The pastor is placed by God in the local church as the bishop (overseer). He provides leadership and oversight for the benefit of all of its members. As the shepherd of the flock he will provide strength, encouragement, and guidance as he teaches you the Bible. Acts 6:4; I Thess. 5:12,12; I Tim. 3:1-7, 5:17; Heb. 13:17

Deacons — The deacons are the servants of the local church serving the pastor and its members. Acts 6:1-7; I Tim. 3:8-13

WHY DO YOU NEED A LOCAL NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH?

The local church is to a Christian what a home is to a child. The home provides shelter, protection, nourishment, instruction, love, fellowship, discipline, inspiration, and encouragement. In time, it produces a productive, capable, mature adult — and so does the local church.

Remember, God says that you need the local church. You should resolve right now to be baptized and join a gospel-preaching, Bible-believing church.

Friend,

The people of our church
really care about you.

Sincerely,

For additional copies, write:
Grant G. Rice
Route 1 Box 482
Rockvale, TN 37153