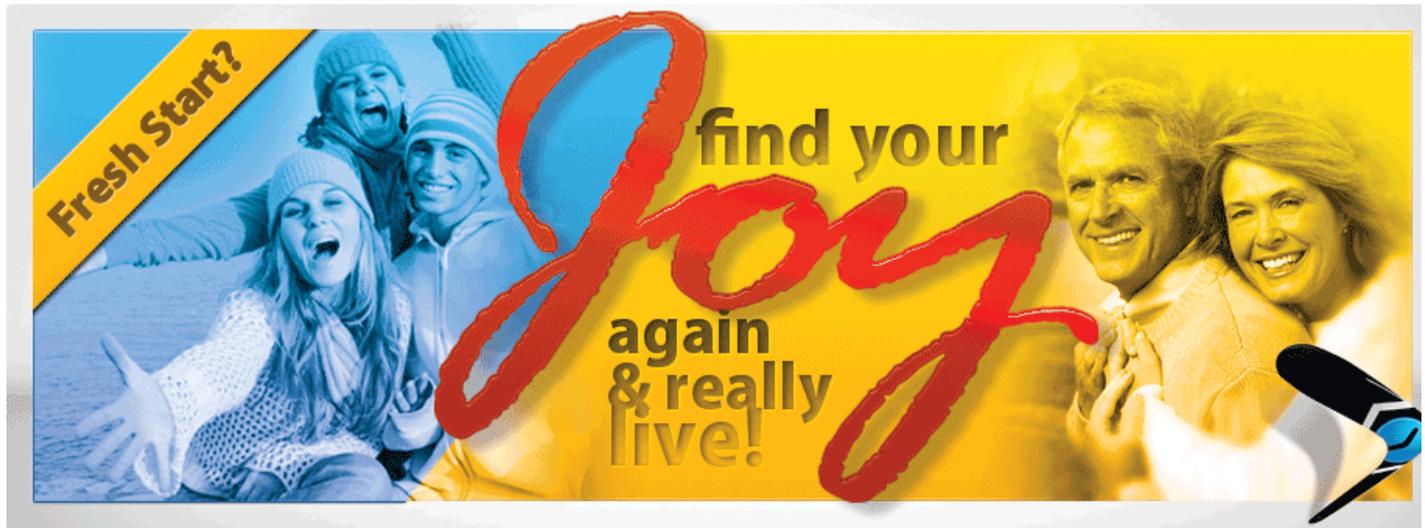


Welcome To boomerangchurch



CHURCH: The Linchpin of the Age!

11/24/2019

- **How Important is Church to God?**

- Jesus gave His life for it!

- **Eph 5:25 (NASB)** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and **gave Himself up for her**,
- **Act 20:28 (NASB)** "Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He **purchased with His own blood**."

- We Are Commanded To Not Abandon It

- **Hebrews 10:23-25 (NLT)** Let us hold tightly without wavering to the hope we affirm, for God can be trusted to keep His promise. **24** Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. **25** And **let us not neglect [abandon]** our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of His return is drawing near.

- Your Place of Flourishing!
 - **Psalms 92:13 (NASB)** Planted in the house of the LORD, They will flourish in the courts of our God.

- God CHOSE Our Placement In It!
 - **1 Corinthians 12:18 (NASB)** But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.
 - It was SO important to God that He said *"I'll choose where you should be!"*
 - Our only choice in the matter is to be OBEDIENT or NOT.
 - Seek Him on our placement
 - Hear from Him
 - Plant our self & our family there so that we may flourish!

- It's Where We Receive Full Life!
 - **Matthew 4:4 (NASB)** But He answered and said, "It is written, 'MAN SHALL NOT LIVE [see John 10:10] ON BREAD ALONE, BUT ON EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDS OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD.'"
 - **Romans 10:17 (NASB)** So faith [to overcome & have full life!] comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ [preached]

- Church is The Linchpin of this Age!
 - The Church is Designed to Give Hope, Save & Preserve the World Through Christ
 - **Matthew 5:13-16 (NASB)** "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. **14** "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; **15** nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **16** "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

- **What IS Church?!**

- **Family & Fellowship:** A living organism, not JUST an organization
 - **1 John 1:7 (NASB)** but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have **fellowship with one another**, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.
 - **Acts 2:42-43 (NASB)** They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' **teaching** and to **fellowship**, to the **breaking of bread** and to **prayer**. **43** Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.
 - **Hebrews 2:11 (NLT)** So now Jesus and the ones he makes holy have the same Father. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them **his brothers and sisters**.
 - **Hebrews 2:11 (CEV)** Jesus and the people he makes holy all belong to the same **family**. That is why he isn't ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.
 - **Matthew 12:46-50 (NASB)** While He was still speaking to the crowds, behold, His mother and brothers were standing outside, seeking to speak to Him. **47** Someone said to Him, "Behold, Your mother and Your brothers are standing outside seeking to speak to You." **48** But Jesus answered the one who was telling Him and said, "**Who is My mother and who are My brothers?**" **49** And stretching out His hand toward His disciples, He said, "**Behold My mother and My brothers!** **50** **"For whoever does the will of My Father who is in heaven, he is My brother and sister and mother."**
 - *"Well, blood is thicker than water."*
 - My blood is important! It will keep me alive for 120 years
 - The blood of Jesus will keep me alive for eternity!
- **A Pillar of Truth**
 - **1 Timothy 3:15 (NASB)** but in case I am delayed, *I write* so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the **church** of the living God, **the pillar and support of the truth**.
 - **John 8:31-32 (NASB)** So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, "**If you continue in My word**, *then you are truly disciples of Mine*; **32** and you will know the truth, and the **truth will make you free.**"

○ **Ekklesia:**

▪ **Matthew 16:13-20 (NASB)** Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, "**Who do people say** that the Son of Man is?" **14** And they said, "Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets." **15** He *said* to them, "But **who do you say** that I am?" **16** Simon Peter answered, "You are the **Christ [anointed One & His anointing]**, the Son of the living God." **17** And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. **18** "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My **CHURCH**; and the gates of Hades **will not overpower it**. **19** "I will give you the **keys of the kingdom** of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven." **20** Then He warned the disciples that they should tell no one that He was the Christ.

▪ **Ekklesia:** a Roman term, not a Hebrew term

- a group of Citizens, Called OUT from their homes to gather together, to Set Rule & Government over their area
- **Citizens**, not a mixture
- **Called OUT** together
 - by definition you can't have church by yourself at home
- **Sets the Rule**, laws & government over an area

○ Participants, Not Spectators!

▪ **Ephesians 4:16 (NASB)** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what **every joint supplies**, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

○ Mature Christlike Believers

Catering to The Spirit! Not Coddling the Flesh!

- *"Did I call you to raise up weak Christians, always catering to their flesh? Or did I call you to raise up STRONG believers, always catering to the Spirit?"*
- **Romans 8:6 (NASB)** For the mind set on the **flesh** is death, but the mind set on the **Spirit** is life and peace,

- **Ephesians 4:8 (NASB)** Therefore it says, "WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH, HE LED CAPTIVE A HOST OF CAPTIVES, AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN."
- **Ephesians 4:11-16 (NASB)** And He gave some *as apostles*, and some *as prophets*, and some *as evangelists*, and some *as pastors* and **teachers**, **12** for the **equipping of the saints** for the **work of service**, to the **building up of the body of Christ**; **13** until we all **attain to the unity** of the faith, and of the **knowledge** of the Son of God, **to a mature man**, to the measure of the **stature** which belongs to **the fullness of Christ**. **14** As a result, we are **no longer to be children**, tossed here and there **by waves** and carried about by **every wind of doctrine**, by the **trickery** of men, by **craftiness in deceitful scheming**; **15** but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him who is the head, *even* Christ, **16** from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together **by what every joint supplies**, according to **the proper working of each individual part**, causes the **growth of the body** for the **building up of itself in love**.

- **WE Are Tasked To:**

- **Not Abandon Church & What Church Is – Don't Abandon/Forsake:**
 - The church's importance
 - Our placement
 - Our planting
 - Vision of the field you're planted in
 - Our saltiness & light
 - Our family & fellowship
 - The truth
 - Being a citizen & the group of citizens
 - The calling out
 - To set rule/dominion in your area
 - Your participation
 - Giving yourself to the Spirit
 - Esteeming gifts: apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor & teachers
 - Unity
 - Knowledge
 - Love
 - Submitting ourselves to growth: personally & corporately

○ **Strengthen The Linchpin!**

- **Proverbs 14:28 (NASB)** In a multitude of people is a king's glory,
But in the dearth of people is a prince's ruin.
- **Matthew 28:18-20 (NASB)** And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. **19** "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."
- Sheep Begat Sheep!
 - **Mark 16:15-20 (NASB)** And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. **16** "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. **17** "These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; **18** they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly *poison*, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." **19** So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. **20** And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.]