



Tri-Village Sermon Discussion Questions

Topic: *Questions About the Church*

Text: 1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Matthew 16:13-18

Service Date: September 6, 2026

Note: The questions are only a starting point for discussion. Don't hesitate to modify, adapt, or highlight only specific ones to fit your group and/or personal study.

Getting Started

- When you were growing up, what is one thing you remember most about church? (This question may be answered differently for each person based upon whether their family was involved in a church or not.)
- If you could describe your ideal community using only three words, what would they be?

Sermon Discussion

- The sermon emphasized that the church is not a building but a people. How does that perspective change the way you think about church involvement?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-14. What part of the "body of Christ" analogy stands out most to you, and why?
- Jesus said, "On this rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:18). Why is Peter's confession about Jesus being the Messiah foundational to the church?
- The sermon stated that the New Testament does not envision a Christian disconnected from a church family. Why do you think community is so important for spiritual growth? What do you say to someone who believes they can follow Christian but have no connection to a local church?
- How have small groups, friendships, or other Christian relationships helped you grow in your faith?
- Tri-Village's mission statement is "to connect all people to Jesus and one another." Which part of that mission do you find easier—connecting people to Jesus or connecting people to others? Why?
- The sermon described three directions every church should focus: upward (worship), inward (nurture), and outward (mission). Which of those areas do you think comes most naturally to you? Which is most challenging?

- Jesus was described as being "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). Why is it difficult to maintain both grace and truth at the same time?
- The sermon discussed how Christians should respond to people whose beliefs or lifestyles differ from biblical teaching. What can we learn from Jesus' example in balancing conviction with compassion?
- Paul reminds believers in 1 Corinthians 6:11, "And that is what some of you were." How does remembering our own need for grace affect the way we view others?
- The sermon emphasized that the church's primary allegiance is to Christ and His Kingdom. How can Christians remain engaged in culture and society without losing focus on their primary mission?
- Looking toward the future, the sermon suggested that healthy churches naturally grow and expand their influence. What signs do you think indicate a healthy church?

This Week's Action Response

- What is one specific step you can take this week to help "build the church together"—whether through worship, encouraging another believer, serving, inviting someone to church, joining a group, sharing your faith, etc.? Explain what you plan to do and how the group can pray for you.