

Act Normal

“The Normal Church”

Greg Wendschlag June 12, 2016

The “normal church” is a group of people defined by their faith in and surrender to the Lordship of Jesus Christ

Church: ekklesia – public assembly summoned by a herald
The people of God summoned by the Gospel proclaimed by Jesus.

Names given to the church:

- The body of Christ
- The bride of Christ
- The family of God
- The people of God
- The temple of the Holy Spirit

Some names given to the people of the church:

- Brothers and sisters
- Saints
- Elect
- Believers
- Disciples
- People of the Way
- Christians

1. The church is local and global: Jerusalem and the ends of the earth.

“You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1:8

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...” Matt. 28:19

2. The church enjoys true fellowship with each other.

4:23-37

“They devoted themselves...” Acts 2:42-47

“On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people...” Acts 4:23

“All of the believers were one in heart and mind...” Acts 4:32

3. The church is open to everybody.

“Saul was there, giving approval to (Stephen’s) death.” Acts 7:60

“The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.” Acts 10:45

4. The church is organized toward a purpose.

“Choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn the responsibility (of feeding the widows) over to them.” Acts 6:3-4

“Paul and Barnabas were appointed, along with some other believers, to go up to Jerusalem to see the apostles and the elders. Acts 15:2

5. The church is not perfect.

“How is it that Satan has so filled our heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?” Acts 5:3

“The Grecian Jews among them complained against those of the Aramaic speaking community because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food.” Acts 6:1

“(Paul and Barnabas) has such a sharp dispute that they parted company” they went their separate ways to strengthen the church. Acts 15:36-41