

# A Real and Functioning Church

Acts 1:13-26

June 25, 2006

## I. Church Membership

### 1. The meaning of “church”

a) brought together (Matthew 18:20)

1) by God (Acts 2:47)

2) voluntarily (Acts 2:41)

b) bound together (Acts 1:14; 2:42-47; 4:23-24; 5:12-14; 9:26-28)

### 2. The membership of the church

a) The eleven (Acts 1:13)

b) The total – 120 (Acts 1:14,15)

c) They knew who they were (Acts 1:13-15; 2:41; 5:12-14; 1Co.5:12,13)

d) We have a definite number, but we don't glory in or trust in numbers. (1Jo.2:16; Psa.20:7; 2Sa.24; Pro.3:5-6)

## II. Church Leadership

1. Called and Trained by the Lord (Act.1:13; Mar.3:13-14)

a) Elders are still called of God, but trained in the church and recognized by the church (Eph.4:11; Mat.28:20; 2Ti.2:2)

b) All qualifications are important and necessary (1Ti.3; Tit.1), but the most important is the loving care for the Lord's sheep by the preaching and teaching of the Word. (Act.1:15-16; Joh.21:15-17; Act.20:28)

## III. Church Activity

1. Prayer (Act.1:14,24; 2:42; 4:24,31)

2. Preaching (Act.1:15-21)

3. Worship (Luk.24:51-53)

4. Business

a) According to Scripture they must replace Judas (Act.1:20)

b) God had disciplined Him out of the church. At times this is our business. (Act.1:16-20; 1Co.11:30-32; Mat.18:15-20; 1Co.5:12-13)

c) The qualifications were given before all (Act.1:21-22)

d) They prayed (Act.1:24,25)

e) They cast their lots (ballots) (Act.1:26)

Here is a church with a definite membership, definite leadership and carrying on the functions of a church.