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**THE DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH**

**The Purpose of the Church:** Let’s use our previous pattern and consider the negative and the positive. Let’s consider what the churches purpose is not…

1. The purpose of the church is not to save the world: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 1

1. The purpose of the church is not to serve the world: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 2

1. The purpose of the church is not to rule the world: \_\_\_\_\_\_

 3

1. The purpose of the church is not to fight for the world: \_\_\_\_\_

 4

1. The purpose of the church is not to imitate the world: \_\_\_\_\_

 5

1. The purpose of the church is not to abandon the world: \_\_\_\_

 6

Consider what the churches purpose is…\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 7

1. **The Church is to Confirm our Love for God: (Rev. 2:4)** \_\_

 8

1. **The Church is to Glorify God: (Eph. 1:5-6, 11, 12, 14, 3:21; II Thess. 1:12)** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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1. **The Church is to Display God’s Grace: (Eph. 2:7, 3:6, 10; I Pt. 2:9)** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
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1. **The Church is to Evangelize the World: (Mt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:15; Lk. 24:47; Jn. 20:21; Acts 1:8; Ps. 126:5-6; Mt. 9:36-37)**
2. **The Church is to Baptize Believers: (Mt. 28:19)** Enlarging the body by evangelizing the lost and enlisting new believers through baptism.
3. **The Church is to Disciple Believers: (Phil. 4:8-9; I Tim 4:6, 5:17; II Tim 2:2, 24-25)** Ministry is making mature believers.
4. **The Church is to Edify the Believers: (I Cor. 14:26; Eph. 4:11, 12, 16; I Thess. 5:11; II Pt. 3:18)** encouragement, exhortation, example…
5. **The Church is to Discipline Believers:** To direct believers, 3 kinds of church discipline apply here: 1) self-discipline (I Cor. 11:31; II Cor. 7:1; I Jn. 3:2), direction in self-development, 2) sovereign discipline (Jn. 15:2; Acts 5:5, 10; I Cor. 11:32; Heb. 12:9, 10; I Pt. 4:17) and 3) church discipline (Mt. 18:17; Rom. 16:17; I Cor. 5:1-13; Gal. 6:1‑2; II Thess. 3:6, 14; Titus 3:10-11; II Jn. 1:10)
6. **The Church is to Provide Fellowship for Believers: (Acts 2:42; I Cor. 1:9; II Cor. 8:4, 13:14; Gal. 2:9; Phil. 2:1; I Jn. 1:3, 6-7)** In Christ, as believers, sharing, caring, loving, giving, forgiving, bearing burdens, prayer, edify, admonish…
7. **The Church is to be a Restraining Force and Enlightening Force in the World: (Mt. 5:13-16; II Thess. 2:6-7)** Resisting the devil and restraining evils influence.