

# **Answers To Life's Most Essential Questions**

## **Lesson 7: What Is The Church?**

Why is it essential to know the answer to this question?

### **1. What The Church Is Not**

Can all the different churches in existence today be right in the sight of God?

Is the church an earthly organization? List some characteristics of the church that views itself as an earthly organization.

Is the church a social club? List some characteristics of the church that views itself as a social club.

Is the church a political machine? List some characteristics of the church that views itself as a political machine.

Is the church a building where religious people meet together? List some characteristics of the church that views itself as a building where religious people meet together.

Does the church have the same role as Jesus Christ? List some characteristics of the church that views itself in the role of Christ.

Is the church a group of denominations? List some characteristics of the church that views itself as a group of denominations.

### **2. The "Universal" Church**

What does the Greek word "ekklesia" mean?

What is the “universal” church of Christ? Who is part of this church?

What is the significance of the following terms used in connection with the church?

1. The kingdom of God –
2. The body of Christ –
3. The household of God –
4. The temple of God –
5. The church of Christ –

### **3. The “Local” Church**

What is a “local” church of Christ? Should you join a local church of Christ?

What is the pattern for local churches in each of the following areas?

1. The organizational structure of the local church –
2. The work of the local church –
3. The worship of the local church –