

familiar landmark. A policeman saw the girl, realised something was wrong, and offered to help. So she got in the car and he slowly drove through nearby neighbourhoods. Suddenly the girl pointed to a church and asked the policeman to let her out. She assured him, “This is my church, and I can always find my way home from here.”

Many people think the church is an archaic institution, no longer relevant in our modern world. Yet I am convinced that a church that faithfully teaches the Bible and proclaims the good news of salvation through Christ provides exactly what we all need to “find our way home.”

When our churches are fulfilling their God-given function, believers humbly serve and care for one another, encouraging each other to follow Christ’s example (Philippians 2:1-11). Those groups of believers, by their words and lives, also point a lost world to Jesus. They serve “as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life” (vv.15-16).

A church that teaches the truth about Christ is not only relevant but desperately needed in our world. It can help people of all ages to find their way home.

*Christ builds His church and makes it strong
By using you and me;
And if we all will do our part,
The world His love will see. —Sper*

A church helps the lost to find their way home when its light shines brightly.



Central Mountains Baptist Church

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Finding Our Way Home

Author Anne Lamott tells about a 7-year-old girl who got lost in a big city. The girl frantically ran up and down several streets, looking for a





church restoration

how church helps

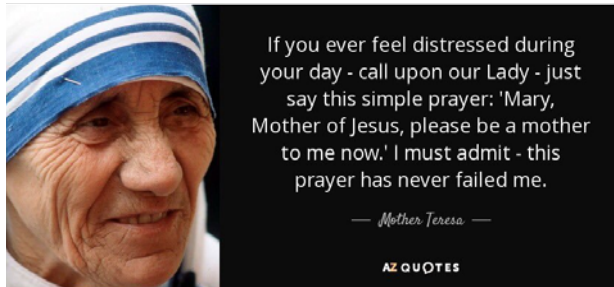
There are two benefits of membership in a local church with good leadership implied by Titus 1:9-16:

1. Protection from _____, verses 5, 7, 6

◆ Because they will be able to recognise _____, verses 10, 16

(Isaiah 64:6) "But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like filthy rags; ..."

(Acts 1:14) "These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers."



◆ Because good pastors will take action to stop _____, verses 9, 11



(1 Corinthians 5:5) "deliver such a one to Satan ..."

(1 Timothy 1:20) "of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme."

(Matthew 7:15-16) "'Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. {16} "You will know them by their fruits. ..."

2. Provision of solid _____,



◆ Because a good pastor will be correcting _____, verses 12-13

◆ Because a good pastor will be correcting wrong _____, verses 14-15

(Hebrews 5:14) "But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

