

WHY PLACE MEMBERSHIP WITH A LOCAL CHURCH?



And when Saul had
come to Jerusalem, he
tried to join the
disciples... (Acts 9:26)

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THE LOCAL CHURCH'S DESIGN

“Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:” (Php 1:1)

1. Elders having oversight 1 Pet 5:2, Acts 20:28
2. Deacons meeting needs Acts 6:1-3, 1 Tim 5:9
3. Saints serving and strengthening each other Heb 10:24-25

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WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP MEAN?

1. An opportunity and commitment to serve – Romans 16:1
2. A chance to do more together than apart – Acts 15:22
 1. Barnabas sent by Jerusalem church (Acts 11:22-26)
 2. Eventually Barnabas and Saul joined the Antioch church (Acts 13:1)
 3. And the Antioch church then sent them to preach abroad (Acts 13:2-3)
3. Accountability – 1 Cor 5:12-13, Heb 13:17, Acts 20:28
4. Mutual edification – Heb 10:23-25, Tit 2:1-6, Acts 12:5
5. A chance to be a pillar for others – 1 Tim 3:15, Gal 2:9
 1. "seek out from among you" (Acts 6:3)
 2. "well spoken of by the brethren" (Acts 16:1-2)
 3. Appointment of elders (Titus 1:5, 10-11)
 4. Protect against "itching ears" (2 Tim 4:3)