

Psalm 110:1, Acts 2:14-41 (34-35) The Nature of Jesus' Body, Parts 4 & 5

Audio: http://countrysidefellowship.com/ discipleship/sermons-studies/ Daily Scriptures & Prayer: http://countrysidefellowship.com/daily/ todays-scripture-prayer/

Why we gather, first, has its foundation in who Jesus is and the nature of Jesus' Body...

① <u>Christ lays down his life for his Bride, the Church</u> • EPHESIANS 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. → How does this have priority and resolve in your life?

2 The Church exists for the purpose of bringing Christ's (invisible) light to the (visible) world. • JOHN 8:12 When Jesus spoke to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life." • MATTHEW 5:14-16 <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven. → Where can we see Christ's light visible in the church?

Christ has made "an inseparable union" between himself and the Church, and we receive grace from the head of the body.
• COLOSSIANS 1:18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. • EPHESIANS 1:22-23<sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. → How does this work out practically? Does it?

The Church is the place in the world where the Holy Spirit is completely present.
 • GALATIANS 5:16 So I say, live by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the sinful nature.
 • GALATIANS 5:22-23<sup>22</sup>...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness and self-control.
 → Do we need to improve?