

# *Purpose* of the Local Church

A test...?  
To worship God?  
To be saved?  
To stay saved?  
???

# *As a member of the Universal Church*

- ◆ Blessings Eph 1:3f
- ◆ Privileges
  - Jam 5:13 - Sing
  - Ac 10:9 - Pray
  - 3Jn 5-8 - Give
  - Philemon, Timothy - Study
- ◆ Responsibilities Eph 4:1-3, 11-15, 17f

*Then why the local church ... ?*

## *Benefit of Together Work as Recognized by Society*

- ◆ AA; Weight Watchers, etc.
- ◆ People of like prob., goals, mind...share:
  - Knowledge
  - Strength
  - Resources
  - Abilities

*What soc. has recog., God knew all along...*

# *Purpose of the Local Church*

- ◆ As seen in its activities ...
  - Assembling Heb 10:24,25...26f
  - Singing Col 3:16
  - Praying Acts 4:23,24...31
  - Giving 2Co 8:1; 9:1,2
  - Studying 1Co 14:26
  - Lord's Supper 1Co 11:17...26...30

- *WORK* harmonizes with *PURPOSE* — NOT social, civic, political
- Qualified oversight *1Tim 3:15...*
- “Fellowship” - “in Christ” act.; “fellowship hall”?
- Assemblies conducive to goal *1Co 11:17; 14:5-6, 17-19, 40*
- Primary goal - Edification of members
- YOU need it!
- Encourage one another *Heb 3:12; 10:24, 25*
- NOT people who have “made it”!
- Remove...! *1Co 5; 2Th 3*