

Metaphor's For Church Life

- **Body**
 - Emphasizes the Interdependence of the Individual Members
- **Family**
 - Emphasizes the Nurturing Relationships Among Members of the Community
- **Temple**
 - Emphasizes the Relationship with God through the Spirit

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Church as Body

- A Relational Gathering With Mutual Responsibilities and Interests (1 Cor 12:12—27)
 - Culturally, Ethnically, Geographically Diverse But United By One Spirit Who Has Included Them (vv. 12—13)
 - Each Member Has a Responsibility to All the Others (vv. 14—17)
 - Each Member Has a God-Appointed Role (vv. 18—26)
 - No Individual in the Group is There By Accident (v. 27)

Relational Gathering Of The Redeemed With Diverse Backgrounds and Gifts, Dynamically United to Display The Love of Jesus

Church as Body

- A Diverse Gathering United in Service to Each Other (Rom. 12:4—21)
 - ▣ Many Members With Different Roles to Play (vv. 4—5)
 - ▣ Each Member Contributing According to Their Gifts (vv. 6—21)

Relational Gathering Of The Redeemed With Diverse Backgrounds and Gifts, Dynamically United to Display The Love of Jesus

Church as Body

- A Dynamic Gathering Directed and Loved by Jesus (Eph. 1:22-23, 5:22—27, Col 2:19)
 - ▣ Head Over the Body (Eph. 1:22—23)
 - ▣ Nurtured and Cherished by Jesus (Eph. 5:22—27)
 - ▣ A Complete, Growing, Developing Body (Col. 2:19)

Relational Gathering Of The Redeemed With Diverse Backgrounds and Gifts, Dynamically United to Display The Love of Jesus

Church as Family

- A Nurturing and Loving Gathering
 - ▣ Maternally Sharing Truth and Life (1 Thess. 2:7—8)
 - ▣ Treating Each Other With Familial Respect and Dignity (1 Tim. 5:1—2)
 - ▣ Made Up of Those Adopted into God the Father's Family (Gal. 4:4—5)
 - ▣ Jesus Himself is the Oldest Brother (Rom. 8:29)
- A Family Gathering
 - ▣ Leaders Are to Know How to Manage a Family (1 Tim. 3:1, 4—5)
 - ▣ The Gathering is God's Household (1 Tim. 3:15)

A Carefully Managed Nurturing Gathering Full of Love, Care,
Respect

Church as Temple

- A Holy Gathering In Which Lives God's Spirit (1 Cor 3:16—17)
 - United Through Corporate Sharing of The Spirit of God
 - Unity That is Protected By God
 - Unity That is Not to Be Defiled Otherwise They Will Incur God's Wrath
- A Holy Gathering Set Apart by God's Spirit (2 Cor 6:14—18)
 - Distinctly Bound to Jesus and Not Their Culture
 - United By Shared Presence of the Living God
 - Pursuing a Holy Life Out of Reverence for God
- An Ethnically and Culturally Diverse Gathering (Eph. 2:20—22)
 - Share a Common Spirit With All People Everywhere Who are in Christ
 - Confess a Common Testimony About Christ
 - Pursue a Common Mission to Glorify God Through a Dynamically Developing Gathering Who Are Adapting to One Another

Gathering Of The Redeemed Among Whom God's Spirit is Visibly Present Through Unity, Holiness, and Diversity