

# *Katalyst Church*



*A Revolution of Love*

Racism

Heresy

Immorality

Adultery

Favouritism

Gossip

Dissension

False Teaching

False prophets

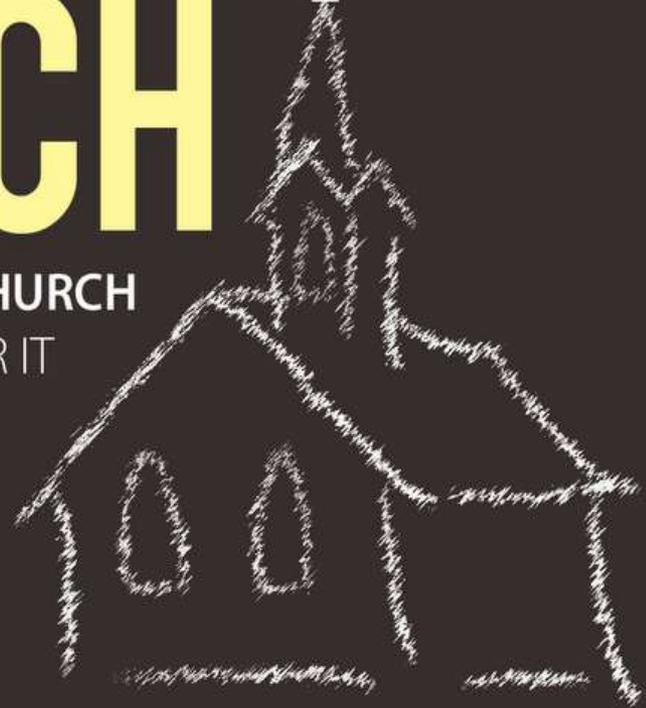
Law suits

Errant doctrine



# IMPERFECT CHURCH

THE STORY OF THE **FIRST CHURCH**  
AND **EVERY CHURCH** AFTER IT



**Ananias and Sapphira (Slain in the Spirit) Acts 5: 1-11**

**Strife over distribution of food Acts 6:1-7**

**Council of Jerusalem Acts Chapter 15**

**Paul + Barnabas dispute over John Mark Acts 15:36-41**

Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company. Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord.

**Contention over food sacrificed to idols Romans Chapter 14**

**Division and favouritism 1 Corinthians 1: 10-17, Chapter 3**

**Moral and Ethical disorder 1 Corinthians Chapter 5**

**Christians suing Christians 1 Corinthians Chapter 6**

**Marriage - Divorce - Separation 1 Corinthians Chapter 7**

**Impropriety in Worship 1 Corinthians Chapter 11: 1-16**

**Abuses of the Lord's Supper 1 Corinthians Chapter 11: 16-34**

**Abuse of Spiritual gifts 1 Corinthians Chapters 12-15**

## **Galatians: Law, Grace and Liberty (Who bewitched you!)**

## **Thessalonians : Misguided Theology - Disorderly and Lazy**

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers and sisters, to keep away from every believer who is idle and disruptive and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, labouring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to offer ourselves as a model for you to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule:

“The one who is unwilling to work shall not eat.” We hear that some among you are idle and disruptive. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the food they eat. And as for you, brothers and sisters, never tire of doing what is good. Take special note of anyone who does not obey our instruction in this letter. Do not associate with them, in order that they may feel ashamed. Yet do not regard them as an enemy, but warn them as you would a fellow believer. *2 Thess 2: V3-15*

## James

Doers of the Word - not just hearers

Tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine

Favouritism of rich/Influential

Taming of the tongue

Lack of wisdom

Boasting / bragging about tomorrow

Warning to rich oppressors

**Ephesus** - Lost their first love

**Pergamum** - Tolerated  
Teachings of Balaam + Nicolaitans

**Thyatira** - Tolerated Jezebel  
(Satan's deep secrets)

**Sardis** - Reputation for life but dead  
(Deeds not complete)

**Laodicea** - Materialistic + Lukewarm



Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

**Philippians 2: 1-4**

Rather than being depressed/disillusioned by his imprisonment and impending death we discover Paul is full of Joy.

But there is one thing that would make his Joy complete To hear that the Philippian Church is in unity!

**Incest, Drunkenness @ Lords supper – Perversion truth**

**Orthodox Doctrine + Right behaviour  
Still hard maturation to occur in their Unity**

**Paul transitions from what the Philippians have  
To what the Philippians are lacking  
To what the Philippians can ultimately have**

Notice that Paul makes his appeal through the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> persons of the Trinity - The motivation of Christ and the Holy Spirit are intrinsic to our capacity to ever hold and express right motivation.

Only through our surrender to Christ, can the power of His humility, Servant hearted giving and a divine restraint of love hold us in right relationships. The challenge/call of Christ to follow His example!

That restraint of love will compel you to stand against the selfishness of your flesh and do what the spirit of Jesus commands/requires

Shared experience of the Spirit: Fellowship of the Spirit manifests amongst us as tenderness and compassion: Release of affection, sympathy, feeling and emotion towards one another

**Shared understanding, mutual concern, common purpose**  
**Motivation that affects everyone together not in parallel.**

**Instinctive Crowd or mob psychology of LOVE**

## **What Hinders us?**

**Self Centeredness - Self Importance - Self Interest**

**Let your mind:** The right outlook, disposition, perspective + outlook = Bent. If I took the brake of your personality, what would occur? **Pauls says it boils down to heart motive!**

**Selfish Ambition - Both Singular and corporate is to Believe you are more important**

**Vain conceit - To be self absorbed**

- **Value others above yourself - Get down lower, so you look up to people, not down on them.**
- **Looking to others interests before your own:**

**Constantly asking - What is best for others????**

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Philippians 2: 6-11**

**The amazing part of this passage is that it is one of the few written from the “inside”. Almost everything else written about Christ is from the outside. This scripture gives us a clear understanding of what Jesus thought, what bent he had, what his motivation was:**

**This is Jesus from the inside!**

**Because we are “In Christ” this is not an example we determine to copy - It is an expression of what we have already experienced already – Let it out.**

**Paul’s appeal isn’t to lay hold of something we don’t have, but to exercise what we have received in Jesus.**

**We have already been on the receiving end of His humility, his love, his acceptance, his forgiveness, his grace**

**So now we must be on the giving end.**

# Messy Church

**More Money - Bigger Budgets**

**More programs - Innovative/creative ministries**

**Bigger buildings, more professional approach**

**People willing to truly be servants of others**

**Lay down their rights to Selfish Ambition**

**Lay down privilege of being most important**

**Esteem others above our own value and worth**



They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest.

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

Mark 9: 34-35

A landscape photograph of a field with rows of crops, overlaid with text. The background shows a field with rows of crops, possibly a vineyard or orchard, with hills in the distance under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

**The greatest in God's  
Kingdom**

*is the one who serves everyone*