

Characteristics of Christians vs. Purpose of the Church

- Illustration of individual states versus the purpose of the United States
- The foundation, purpose of the United States is freedom
- On the other hand, a state such as Idaho, is known for certain attributes, characteristics
 - Mining, forest products, potatoes
- Notes taken from lesson by Larry Rude

The characteristics of individual christians are not the same as the purpose of the church

- The church isn't baptized, but a collection of those characterized by baptism

Attributes, characteristics of a Christian

- Striving to be pleasing, righteous, helping those in need
- Converted in hearts & minds, not just actions

Attributes, characteristics of a Christian

- Galatians 5:14-25 – Fruits of the spirit, rather than biting & devouring each other etc.

Attributes, characteristics of a Christian

- Ephesians 4:20 – 5:21 – Putting on the new man
 - Making the most of the time, doing what is righteous, pleasing to the Lord.
 - Ephesians 5:22 – 6:9 – Applications to individual aspects of our lives

Attributes, characteristics of a Christian

- Colossians 3:12-17 – Putting on kindness, mercy.....love
 - Letting the word of Christ dwell within
 - Building each other up

Attributes, characteristics of a Christian

- IThessalonians 5:11-16 – Encourage, build up one another.
- ITimothy 5:16 – Carrying out responsibilities for our families
- Galatians 2:10 – Remembering the poor
 - James 1:26-27 – Orphans & widows

Attributes, characteristics of a Christian

- Context of these verses apply to individual Christians
 - These are our characteristics, not the purpose of the church.
 - The church was not assigned to do all these things
 - Where was the church told to eradicate poverty?
 - Jesus said that we'd always have the poor
 - Individually, we must extend our own hearts to help the brethren, the poor etc.
 - The church is not there to do the job of the husband, parent etc.
 - Perhaps, the only dual role between the church and individual is to preach the gospel.