

## Membership

1. What happened when someone was cut off in Israel? (Genesis 17:14; Exodus 31:14; Numbers 4:18; Ruth 4:10; 2 Chronicles 26:21)
2. Is there a relationship between being cut off and not being on a roll? (Psalm 109:13)
3. What does it mean to be a member of something? (Matthew 10:25; Luke 12:52; Luke 23:50; 1 Corinthians 6:15)
4. The Council (Sanhedrin) consisted of 71 members. How could someone tell whether Joseph was a member of the Council? (Luke 23:50)
5. What does it mean that someone is added to a group? (Acts 2:41, 47; 6:1-5; 16:5; Colossians 4:9, 12)
6. Why did they count those who were added? In other words, why not just say, "They were added?" (Acts 2:41)
7. What is entailed in being sent by a church and received by a church? (Acts 15:1-4)
8. How does one determine *the whole church* and who is *among them*? (Acts 15:22)
9. How do you determine who is *within the church*? (1 Corinthians 5:12-13)

10. Consider Matthew 18:15-18.

- a. What does it look like to “let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector” if you have church membership?
  
- b. What does it look like to “let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector” if you don’t have church membership?
  
- c. What is the significance of verse 18 (cf. Matthew 16:19; 2 Corinthians 2:6-11)?

11. Consider Titus 3:10.

- a. How do you “reject a factious man” if you have church membership?
  
- b. How do you “reject a factious man” if you don’t have church membership?

12. Consider 1 Corinthians 5:12-13

- a. How do you remove “the wicked man from among yourselves” if you have church membership?
  
- b. How do you remove “the wicked man from among yourselves” if you don’t have church membership?

13. Does God have a roll of those that belong to Him? (Psalm 69:28; Daniel 12:1; Luke 10:20; Philippians 4:3; Hebrews 12:23; Revelation 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12, 15; 21:27)

14. Were there other occasions when the Lord had a roll? (Isaiah 4:3; Malachi 3:16)
  
15. Did churches maintain lists for reasons other than membership? (1 Timothy 5:9)
  
16. Does belonging to a church entail more than being on a list? (1 Corinthians 11:18, 33)
  
17. Why is “member” used so often in describing the Church? (Romans 12:4–5; 1 Corinthians 6:15; 12:12, 14, 18-20, 22-27; Ephesians 4:25; 5:30)
  
18. What should be a guiding principle in thinking about membership? (1 Corinthians 14:40)
  
19. Does a church need bylaws if they have the Word of God and the Holy Spirit?
  
20. Does a church need to have a membership roll?
  
21. What are the qualifications for becoming a member?
  
22. What are the privileges and responsibilities of being a member?
  
23. What are the practical distinctions between a member and a non-member?

24. What do you do if someone refuses to be a member?
  
25. How is membership canceled?
  
26. Should people be allowed to come and go in churches without accountability?
  
27. Who decides who gets to be a member?
  
28. Consider the following formal membership statement
  - a. Any Christian desiring to become a member may do so after providing evidence of his salvation and that he is not walking in sin. Membership shall be rescinded upon request of any member, except for the reason of avoiding church discipline. People who no longer attend services will be dropped from membership.
  
29. Consider the following informal membership statement
  - a. Any Christian who attends services shall be considered part of this local church. As such, he shall enjoy both the privileges and responsibilities associated with belonging to a local body of believers. By his continued attendance, each believer demonstrates his support and adherence to the policies and practices of this local church as set forth in the Word of God.
  
30. Consider Article IV (Membership) of our church bylaws
  - a. Any person who has placed his faith in Jesus Christ as his Savior and who regularly attends the services of this church shall be considered a member. As such, he shall enjoy both the privileges and responsibilities of belonging to a local body of believers. By continued attendance, the member demonstrates his support and adherence to the policies and authority of this church and its leaders as set forth in the Word of God.
  - b. Acts 2:47; 5:14; 1 Corinthians 12:12-27; Colossians 4:9, 12; Hebrews 13:17
  
31. Should our church have a membership roll?