

The  
**Church**

# The Church

**“...I will build My church,**  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”  
(Matthew 16:18)

**...Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her...**  
(Ephesians 5:25)

# The Church

“...**I will build My church**,  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”  
(Matthew 16:18)

...the church, which is **His body**, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.  
(Ephesians 1:22-23)

...**the house of God**, which is the church of the living God...  
(1 Timothy 3:15)

“Come, I will show you **the bride**, the Lamb's wife.”  
(Revelation 21:9)

# The Church

**“...I will build My church,**  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”  
(Matthew 16:18)

**"My kingdom is not of this world."**  
(John 18:36)

**“They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.”**  
(John 17:16)

...when one says, “I am of Paul,” and another, “I am of Apollos,” are you not **carnal?**  
(1 Corinthians 3:4)

# The **Church**

ἐκκλησία = *ekklesia* = church

# The Church

*ekklesia* = church

How is *ekklesia* used in the New Testament?

In the common way

1. Referring to Israel on their wilderness journey  
(See Acts 7:38)
2. Referring to a gathering of citizens in Ephesus  
(See Acts 19:32, 39, 41)

In the Christian way

3. Referring to all the people redeemed by Christ  
(See Matthew 16:18, Ephesians 1:22)
4. Referring to Christians in a region, city or home  
(See Acts 9:31, Revelation 1:11, Romans 16:5)
5. Referring to believers assembled together (?)  
(See 1 Corinthians 14:34-35)

# The Church

*ekklesia* = church



A preposition  
meaning “out of”

*ek* + *klesia*

A derivative of the verb  
*kaleo* meaning “to call”



An assembly of  
people “called out”

# The Church

## An assembly of people “called out”

- CALLED:**
- ✓ By the Lord Jesus
    - “I will build My church” (Matthew 16:18)
  - ✓ By the gospel
    - “To this He called you through our gospel” (2 Thessalonians 2:14)
  - ✓ By the Holy Spirit
    - “...our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit” (1 Thessalonians 1:5)



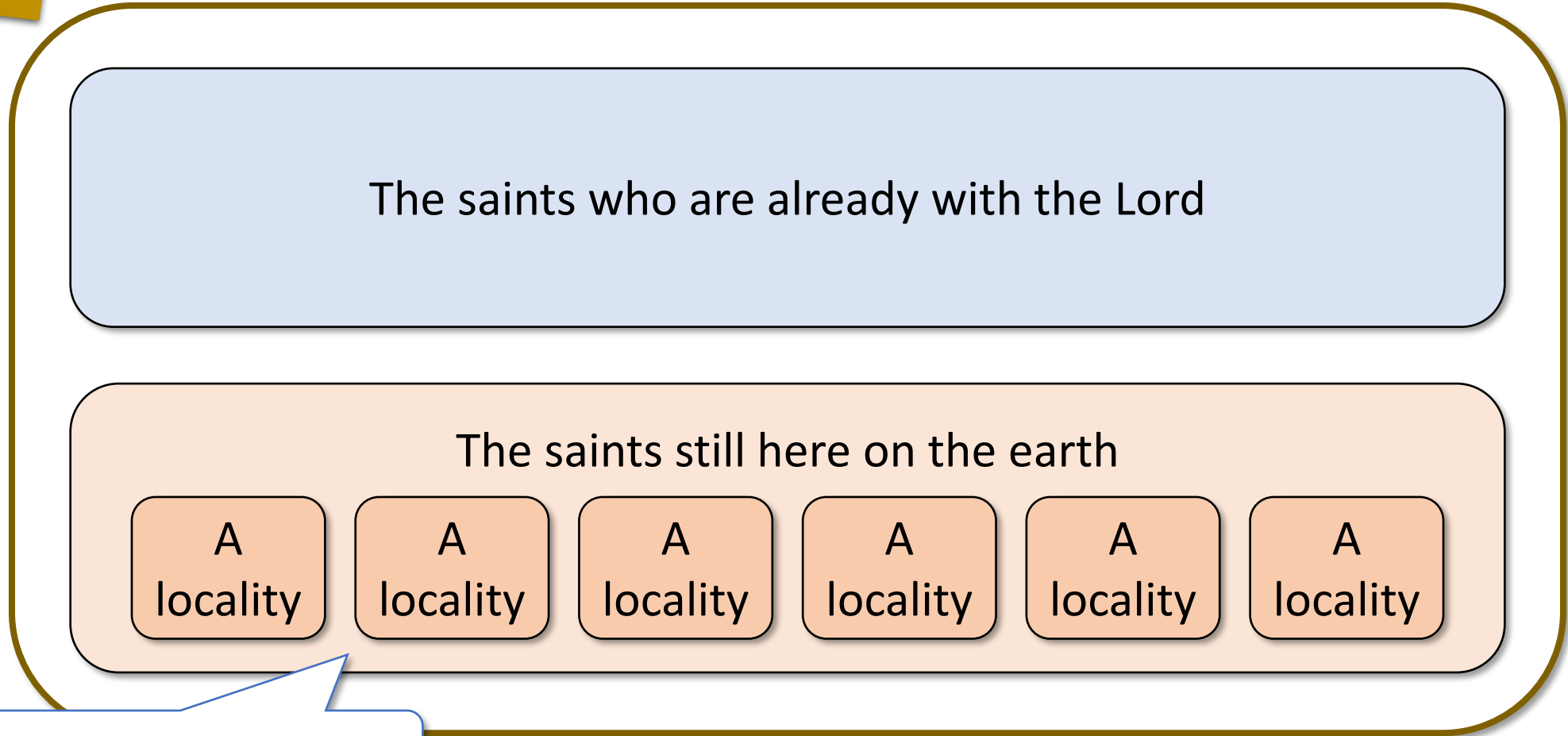
# The Church

## An assembly of people “called out”

### **CALLED OUT:**

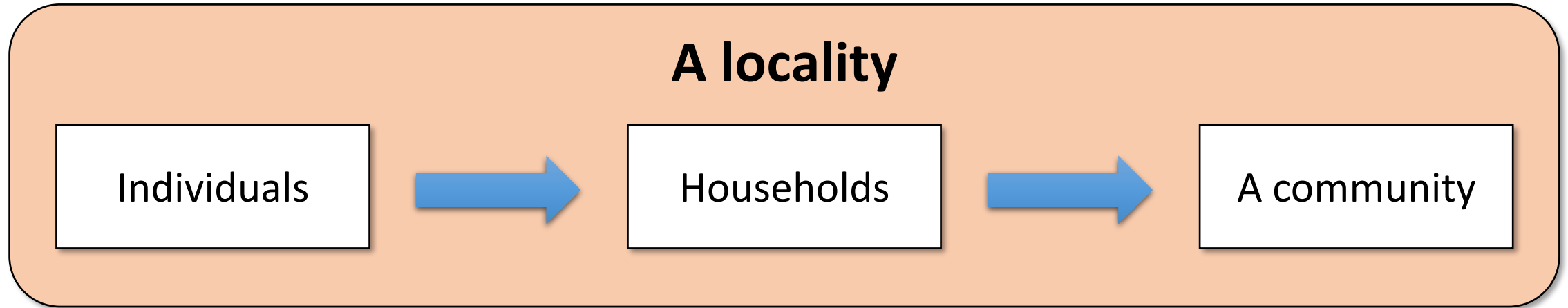
- ✓ From a self-centred life
  - “...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord...”  
(Romans 10:9)
- ✓ From an ordinary life
  - “...be transformed by the renewing of your mind...”  
(Romans 12:2)
- ✓ From the world
  - “...you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world...”  
(John 15:19)

# The Church



Separated geographically

# The Church



## What does all this mean for us?

	Our calling and responsibility
Individuals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To walk with God – 1 Corinthians 1:9</li><li>• To live intentionally with self-discipline – Galatians 6:8</li><li>• To learn to use our gifts – Romans 12:6</li></ul>
Households	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be a place of peace and order – Colossians 3:18-21</li><li>• To be a place where all can grow in grace – Ephesians 6:4</li><li>• To be a place of fellowship – Romans 12:13</li></ul>
A community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To be a community that loves one another – John 13:34-35</li><li>• To share our life openly and together – Matthew 5:13-16</li><li>• To express God's love in word and deed – 1 Timothy 6:17-18</li></ul>

# The Church

**Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint...**

(Proverbs 29:18)

## **Paul's prayer:**

...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory,  
may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him,  
having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know

- ✓ what is **the hope** to which He has called you,
  - ✓ what are the riches of **His glorious inheritance** in the saints, and
  - ✓ what is **the immeasurable greatness of His power** toward us who believe...
- (Ephesians 1:15-19)

# The Church

**Where there is no prophetic vision the people cast off restraint...**

(Proverbs 29:18)

## **Paul's prayer:**

...that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will  
in all spiritual wisdom and understanding,

- ✓ so as **to walk worthy of the Lord**, fully pleasing to Him:
- ✓ **bearing fruit** in every good work and **increasing in the knowledge of God**;
- ✓ being **strengthened** with all power, according to His glorious might,  
for all endurance and patience with joy;
- ✓ **giving thanks** to the Father, who has qualified you to share  
in the inheritance of the saints in light.

(Colossians 1:9-12)

# The **Church**

Open my eyes, that I may behold  
**wondrous things** out of Your law.

I am **a sojourner on the earth**;  
hide not Your commandments from me!

(Psalm 119:18-19)