

**Everyday Fellowship:**  
***Biblical Principles for the Life of the Church***

**What's In A Name?**

What is in a church name? A Christian pastor has collected a list of actual names of churches around the country and then he adds his humorous interpretation. <http://www.christianitytoday.com/pastors/2010/april-online-only/church-by-any-other-name.html>

1. Anthem (For God and country. Yee haw!)
2. **Awakening** (**We do early services like nobody else.**)
3. Axis (For a generation raised to believe the world revolves around them.)
4. Carpenter's Shed (Where church discipline happens the old fashioned way.)
5. Celebration Church (We don't do funerals.)
6. Church w/ No Walls (And a never-ending building campaign.)
7. Compass (Our sermons have four points.)
8. Cool (All other churches drool.)
9. Corem Deo (Our favorite movie is Dead Poets Society.)
10. Cross Culture (It was this or Empty Tomb Culture ... )
11. Crossings (We yield for pedestrians.)
12. enCompass (Wii th-|nk [outside] the box. We R crAtiVe.)
13. Encounter (Sounds like a ride at Epcot. Where are the aliens?)
14. EpicLife Church (The space bar is for losers.)
15. Epiphany Station (Next stop, Conjunction Junction!)
16. Expedition (Anything with an "x" is cool.)
17. In-Between (A church for the undecided.)
18. Jacob's Well (Where bachelors hang out to find their future wives.)
19. Journey ("Don't Stop Believing" is our theme song.)
20. Legacy (We're scared to death we won't have one.)
21. Life On The Vine (Even poop is organic.)
22. Mars Hill (Mars was the god of war ... prepare for battle.)
23. Mercy Street (Where Sesame Street characters go for rehab. Cookie Monster has checked in 7 times.)
24. MercyPoint (Okay! Okay! I've got the point!)
25. Origins (Home of the Young Earth Gospel. Darwin was a chump.)
26. Out Post (The parsonage is known as the "Out House.")
27. Outcast Fellowship (The "Table 9" of churches.)
28. Overflow Church (For those who couldn't find a seat at the megachurch down the street.)
29. Paradox (Modernity sucks.)
30. Passion City (Not to be confused with the adult superstore on I-94.)
31. Praxis (We adapt whatever Willow does.)
32. Radiance (Where the female vocalists all glitter like Mariah Carey.)
33. Radiant (Sounds like a line of makeup for pre-teens.)
34. Real Life Ministries (Where reality TV stars come for healing.)
35. Refuge (Is this what we offer, or what we long for?)
36. Relevant (Our name is writing checks the preacher may not be able to cash.)
37. Renaissance Church (Are nude frescoes a distraction in worship?)
38. Renovation (You can do it! God can help.)

## The Church of Man

**A)** Now the whole earth had one language and the same words. (11:1)

**B)** And as people migrated from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and settled there. (11:2)

**C)** And they said to one another, “Come, let us make bricks, and burn them thoroughly.” And they had brick for stone, and bitumen for mortar. Then they said, “Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth.” (11:3-4)

**D)** And the Lord came down to see the city and the tower, which the **children of man had built**. (11:5)

1. The organization becomes more important than the people who make up the organization.
2. Individuals begin to function in the organization more like cogs in a machine.
3. Individuality and creativity are lost in the structural mass.
4. The structural arrangements in the organization have become rigid and inflexible.
5. People are serving the organization more than the objectives from which the organization was brought into existence.

**C1)** And the Lord said, “Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language, and this is only the beginning of what they will do. And nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them. Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that they may not understand one another's speech.” (11:6-7)

**B1)** So the Lord dispersed them from there over the face of all the earth, and they left off building the city. (11:8)

**A1)** Therefore its name was called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth. And from there the Lord dispersed them over the face of all the earth. (11:9)

6. Communication often breaks down, particularly because of a repressive atmosphere and lots of red tape.
7. The atmosphere in the organization becomes threatening, rather than open and free; people are often afraid to ask uncomfortable questions.
8. In order to survive in a cold structure, people develop their own special interests within the organization, creating competitive departments and divisions.
9. Morale degenerates; people lose their initiative; they become discouraged and often critical of the organization and of others in the organization—particularly its leaders.
10. As the organization gets bigger and as time passes, the process of institutionalization often speeds up. A hierarchy of leadership develops, increasing the problems of communication from the top to the bottom and the bottom to the top. People toward the bottom, or even in the middle of the organization structure, feel more and more as if they really don't count in the organization.

**GOD, THE FATHER, CREATED HIS FAMILY, HIS CHILDREN—BORN TO LOVE**

(Ephesians 1:3-14 ESV)

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed** us in Christ with every spiritual **blessing** in the heavenly places,

1. even as **he chose us** in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him.
2. In love **he predestined us** for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved.
3. In him **we have redemption** through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us,
4. in all wisdom and insight **making known to us** the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.
5. In him **we have obtained** an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory.
6. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, **were sealed** with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Father Creator of the Earth / Heavens (Genesis 1-2)	Father Creator of the Nation of Israel (Genesis 12)
1. Light	1. Great Nation
1. Expanse	2. Great Blessing
1. Plants	3. Great Name
1. Sun, Moon	4. Bless Others
2. Birds, Fish	5. Curse Others
3. Animals, Mankind	6. Great Blessing to all the families of the Earth
<p>And God <b>blessed</b> them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” (Genesis 1:22 ESV)</p> <p>And God <b>blessed</b> them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth.” (Genesis 1:28 ESV)</p> <p>So God <b>blessed</b> the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all his work that he had done in creation. (Genesis 2:3 ESV)</p>	<p>Now the LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will <b>ble</b>ss you and make your name great, so that you will be a <b>ble</b>ssing. I will <b>ble</b>ss those who <b>ble</b>ss you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be <b>ble</b>ssed.” (Genesis 12:1-3 ESV)</p>

## JESUS, THE HEAD. SAVED HIS BODY, HIS MEMBERS—ADOPTED TO SERVE

(Ephesians 4:1-16 ESV)

**WHAT:** I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to **walk** in a manner worthy of the **calling** to which you have been **called**,

**HOW:** with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

**WHY:** There is

one body and

one Spirit—just as you were called to the

one hope that belongs to your call—

one Lord,

one faith,

one baptism,

one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**WHAT:** But **grace was given** to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's **gift**.

**HOW:** Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave **gifts** to men.” (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)

**WHAT:** And he **gave**

the apostles,

the prophets,

the evangelists,

the shepherds and

teachers,

**WHY: A)** to **equip** the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the **body of Christ**,

**B)** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God,

**C)** to **mature manhood**, to the measure of the **stature of the fullness of Christ**,

**D)** so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.

**C1)** Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to **grow up** in every way into him who is the **head, into Christ**,

**B1)** from whom the **whole body**, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when **each part** is working properly,

**A1)** makes the **body grow** so that it builds itself up in love.

**THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE TEMPLE, BUILT HIS NATION, HIS CITIZENS—CIRCUMCISED TO WORSHIP**

(Ephesians 2:11-22 ESV)

Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called “the uncircumcision” by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands—remember that you were at that time **separated** from Christ, **alienated** from the commonwealth of Israel and **strangers** to the covenants of promise, having **no hope** and **without God** in the world.

**A)** But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he himself is our **peace**,

**B)** who has made us **both one** and has **broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility** by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances,

**C)** that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making **peace**, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

**A1)** And he came and preached **peace** to you who were far off and peace to those who were near.

**B1)** For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens,

**C1)** but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord.

**D)** In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

	<b>GOD</b>	<b>JESUS</b>	<b>SPIRIT</b>
Position	Father	Head	Temple
Plan	Created	Saved	Built
Purpose	Family	Body	Nation
Position	Children	Members	Citizens
Plan	Born	Adopted	Circumcised
Purpose	Love	Serve	Worship
Revelation	Genesis to Malachi	Matthew to John	Acts to Revelation