

Steps – Body “...joined and held together...”

As conversions occur, the body grows and functions. We will look at what a local church is and why the ‘body’ metaphor is so significant and key. A growing local church is one where every-member ministry actually occurs and where skills and gifts are being tried and tested for present and ministry. Keeping church at the centre of our focus is essential to see healthy churches grow and then multiply.

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Eph.4:16 - *“From whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.”*

I. Rationale

A. Disciples make churches which are structured to serve His purposes

B. Acts 14:21-23

II. Review: The Church as Body

A. Head

B. Members

C. What is a church?

D. When is a church a church?

E. Why is the church the church?

III. The Body Functioning

A. Function of the body

- B. The way in which the body functions
 - C. Elements which ensure the body functions properly
- IV. A **Roadmap** Proposal (progressing from infancy to maturity)
- A. Define: Understand and define
 - B. Teach: Teach and structure
 - C. Practice: Practice and build
 - D. Review: Assess and review

Suggested Readings: