WE, THE CHURCH.



Ephesians 2:19-22, 19 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of His household, 20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone. 21 In Him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. 22 And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.

WEEK 4: WE, THE HOUSE OF GOD

This final sermon in this series, WE, THE CHURCH, we will look into how the church is governed in the Biblical sense. Pastor Jon's sermon points from Sunday:

• The House of God is ruled by God.

If the church is God's Household—His family, then He is the Head of the Family. The Bible tells us that the Jesus is the head of the church. Read Colossians 1:17-18. Jesus is our ultimate leader. We all follow Him. Which means, the church is not a democracy, it is a theocracy. What is theocracy?

When the House rejects its Ruler, it falls.

God's original plan for His people Israel was to be a Theocracy, but Israel eventually rejected His kingship by asking for a human king. Read 1 Samuel 8:5-9. Why did Israel want a human king? What warning did God give in 1 Samuel 8:18? What happened to Israel eventually? Read 2 Kings 17:21-23.

• Theocracy is restored in the Church.

God established the church—His new household, His new kingdom. Not political and geographical kingdom, but a spiritual kingdom which will cover the earth in which Jesus is Lord. In the Old Testament, Israel rejected theocracy, but in the New Testament, God restored it in His church. Why is the Lordship of Jesus important in our life as believers?

• When the House conforms with the world, it gets corrupted.

Over the centuries, the churches became institutions and allowed itself to be conformed into the patterns of this world with the introduction of a hierarchy, a governance model, influenced by Greek and Roman political systems. How did the church conform into the patterns of this world?

• Theocracy is still God's plan for His Household.

Throughout the Bible we find how the Lordship of Jesus is what truly makes the people of God. What does the Lordship of Jesus mean for the existence and growth of the Church?

Application.

- How is our local church governed? Read 1 Peter 5:1-6.
- How should we respond as God's people to the divine order of leadership in His church? Read Hebrews 13:17 and 1 Thessalonians 5:12-13.
- Read Romans 12:9-11. Pastor Jon shared that Mosaic started with a culture of honor and devotion. Why is honor such an important part in the functionality of the Household of God?
- How can we contribute to the growth of love, devotion and honor in our church?
- Pastor closed the sermon with a challenge to participate, serve, give and invite. Which of the four areas of involvement do you need to work on?

Pray.

- Share another name on your list and let the group pray for that person.
- Pray that you will step up and serve.