

## Just as . . . I AM for Blessing and Service in the Body of Christ

**Discuss:** What is the Church?

- *What does it mean to be part of the Body of Christ?*
- *Why is Christianity not merely an individual pursuit?*

Tertullian, AD160-240

*“We are a body knit together as such by a \_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_, and by the bond of a \_\_\_\_\_. We meet together as an assembly and congregation, that, offering up prayer to God as with united force, we may wrestle with Him in our supplications. . . . With the sacred words we nourish our faith, we animate our hope, we make our confidence more steadfast.”*

*~ The Apology, 39*

What does it mean to ***be the Church?***

1. If you are a \_\_\_\_\_, you are a \_\_\_\_\_ of the Church.
2. The Church has a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The Church has \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The Church has a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ with the world.

**Creed** – The Rule of Faith

Why do we have creeds?

Which is more important, creeds or deeds?

**Practice** – The Fellowship of Saints

What does it mean to be a saint?

Colossians 1:28 – What is a goal of life in the Church?

**Hope** – The Universal Church

Jesus sees the Church as universal and united in Him. So what do we make of divisions in the Church?

1 Corinthians 1:10

What **gifts** does Jesus give His Church?

- Creed / Rule of Faith  
Gift: \_\_\_\_\_
- Practice of the Saints  
Gift: \_\_\_\_\_
- Eschatological Hope  
Gift: \_\_\_\_\_

**Discuss:** How does the Church serve the world?

- Why does the world need a strong confession of faith or doctrine from the Church?
- Why does the world need the practices of the Church, such as Word and Sacrament ministry?
- Why does the world need to understand the eschatological hope of the Church?

**Contact Christa**  
[www.christapetzold.com](http://www.christapetzold.com)  
Instagram: @christa.petzold  
christampetzold@gmail.com