**Name : \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Jesus Was a Construction Worker**

**Foundations – Week 3**

**Parent Notes**

**How did the Church come to be?**

“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.” Matthew 16:18

Christ is the **cornerstone**.

“So, then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with the saints, and members of God’s household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.” Ephesians 2:19-20

“And they were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42

The church has beliefs about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and about Christian living that should shape the way we **think and live.**

**Apostles Creed:**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,   
      creator of heaven and earth. 

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,   
      who was conceived by the Holy Spirit   
      and born of the virgin Mary.   
      He suffered under Pontius Pilate,   
      was crucified, died, and was buried;   
      he descended to hell.   
      The third day he rose again from the dead.   
      He ascended to heaven   
      and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.   
      From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,   
      the holy catholic\* church,   
      the communion of saints,   
      the forgiveness of sins,   
      the resurrection of the body,   
      and the life everlasting. Amen.

Our culture changes, but the **word of God** doesn’t.

**Church Membership**

A denomination means a **branch** of the Christian church.

Pathway Church is part of the **EFCA** or Evangelical Free Church of America.

**What do we believe?**

“In essentials, unity. In non-essentials, charity. In all things, Jesus Christ.”

This means that **we don’t battle over minor points**.

**What is a “church member”?**

A church member is a **believer** who makes a choice to be **actively committed** to one **church.**

**Why should I become a church member?**

First, Christ Himself is committed to the **church**.

“Membership identifies us with our church family and publicly says we are not afraid to be counted with those proclaiming Jesus Christ.”

**The Body of Christ**

“Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,’ it would not for that reason stop being part of the body.  If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.” 1 Corinthians 12:14-20

Christ called the church his **body**.

“For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.” Romans 12:4—8

It is important to use those God’s gifts to **serve** the church. When we have members who aren’t using their gifts, the church **suffers**.

**What do you think God may have gifted you with to help the Church?**

God invites you to use your gifts for His **glory** and the benefit of **others**.