



Syllabus

Course: The Church: Pillar and Ground of the Truth

Credit Hours: 3

Instructor: David W. Cloud

Videos for this course can be found on the Media List at <https://www.wayoflife.org/media/> under the title *Building a New Testament Church*.

Class Description: This course deals with nearly every aspect of church polity and life, including: the meaning of the church, the proper constitution of the church, the importance of the church, biblical descriptions of a New Testament church (expository studies of Acts 2:36-42; 13:1-4; Romans 15:14; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8; Colossians 1:25-28; 1 Thessalonians 1:8-10; 1 Timothy 3:15; Revelation 1:10-20), the Church as a body (expository study of Ephesians 4:7-16), church membership, the pastor, church members' relationship to pastors, other ministry-gifted men, the deacon, ordination, church ordinances, church discipline, the church as headquarters for Christ's Great Commission, and church covenants.

Texts Required for class:

The King James Bible

The Church: Pillar and Ground of the Truth by David W. Cloud, 421 pages, July 2022.

Outcomes—At the end of the course, all students will be able to:

1. Understand the characteristics of a New Testament Church.
2. Gain a stronger understanding of the pastor and his roles.
3. Have a thorough understanding of passages dealing with the Church.
4. Be able to write a Biblical and in-depth Church Covenant.

Evaluation—the class grade will be broken up in the following manner:

Tests (3) – 60%

Quizzes (10) – 25%

Project – 15%

90–100%	A	70–79%	C
80–89%	B	0–69%	D (Failing)

Validation:

Outcome 1. Students read *The Church: Pillar and Ground of the Truth* completely and answer all review questions.

Outcome 2. Students take diligent notes during class over important topics regarding the church.

Outcome 3. Students memorize important passages on the church.

Outcome 4. Students take tests over the material covered in class and read outside of class.

Outcome 5. Students write a Biblical and in-depth Church Covenant that can be used in their future ministries.

There are two options for taking this class. They are the following:

- **Slower Pace-15 Week Option**

This option takes a total of 15 weeks and has regular assignments three times every week: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

- **Advanced-One Month Option**

This option takes a total of 4 weeks and has regular assignments six times every week: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Most days, the student must complete two days' worth of material from the slower paced option in order to complete the course in one month.

-----Slower Pace-15 Week Option-----

Course Outline:

Week Topics

- 1 A Practical Book/ The Church/ Descriptions of a NT Church
- 2 Descriptions of a NT Church
- 3 Descriptions of a NT Church/ The Church as a Body/ Church Membership/ **Test 1**
- 4 The Pastor
- 5 The Pastor
- 6 The Pastor/ Church Members' Relationship to Pastors
- 7 Church Members' Relationship to Pastors/ Other Ministry-gifted Men
- 8 **Test 2**/ The Deacon
- 9 Ordination/ Church Ordinances
- 10 Church Discipline
- 11 Church Discipline
- 12 Church as Headquarters/ Church's Congregational Singing/ **Test 3 (Final)**
- 13 Church Covenant
- 14 Church Covenant
- 15 Church Covenant

Weeks	Assignment		
Weeks	Monday	Wednesday	Friday
1	Pages 1-14	Pages 14-24 Introduction Video	Pages 25-36 Quiz 1— 1 Timothy 3:15 Video-House of God
2	Pages 36-45 Video-A Spiritual House Made of Living Stones	Pages 45-56 Video-Regenerate, Faithful, Growing Church	Pages 57-67 Quiz 2—Acts 2:41 Video-Purifying, Serving Church
3	Pages 67-81 Video-Ministering Body Church	Pages 82-91	Test 1— (covers pages 1-86)
4	Pages 91-99 Video-Missionary Church	Pages 99-109 Video-Practical Steps #1	Pages 109-120 Quiz 3—Acts 2:42 Video- Steps #2
5	Pages 120-129 Video- Steps #3	Pages 130-140 Video- Steps #4 Conclusion Video	Pages 140-151 Quiz 4—Acts 2:43-44
6	Pages 151-160	Pages 160-166	Pages 167-177 Quiz 5—Acts 20:28
7	Pages 177-187	Pages 187-198	Pages 199-204
8	Test 2— (Covers pages 87-204)	Pages 205-216	Pages 216-227 Quiz 6— 1 Corinthians 12:27
9	Pages 228-239	Pages 239-250	Pages 250-262 Quiz 7— Hebrews 10:23-24
10	Pages 263-273	Pages 273-285	Pages 285-296 Quiz 8— Hebrews 10:25
11	Page 296-305	Page 306-318	Page 319-328 Quiz 9— Hebrews 13:7
12	Page 328-336	Pages 337-346	Test 3—(Final) Cumulative
13	Pages 347-359	Page 359-368	Pages 369-379 Quiz 10—1 Peter 5:2
14	Page 379-388	Page 388-398	Pages 398-408
15	Pages 409-421	<i>Work on completing project</i>	Church Covenant Project

Course Outline:**Week Topics**

- 1 A Practical Book/ The Church/ Descriptions of a NT Church/ The Church as a Body/ Church Membership/ **Test 1**/ The Pastor
- 2 The Pastor/ Church Members' Relationship to Pastors/ Other Ministry-gifted Men/ **Test 2**/ The Deacon
- 3 Ordination/ Church Ordinances/ Church Discipline/ Church as Headquarters/ Church's Congregational Singing
- 4 **Test 3 (Final)**/ Church Covenant

Weeks**Assignment**

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Pages 1-24 Intro Video	Pages 25-45 Quiz 1— 1 Tim. 3:15 Video- House of God <u>and</u> Video- A Spiritual House Made of Living Stones	Pages 45-67 Video- Regenerate, Faithful, Growing <u>Church and</u> Video- Purifying, Serving Church	Pages 67-91 Quiz 2— Acts 2:41 Video- Ministering Body Church <u>and</u> Video- Missionary Church	Test 1— (covers pages 1-86) Pages 91-99	Pages 99- 120 Video- Practical <u>Steps #1 and</u> Video- Steps #2
2	Pages 120- 140 Quiz 3— Acts 2:42 Video- <u>Steps #3 and</u> Video- <u>Steps #4 and</u> Video-Con.	Pages 140- 160	Pages 160- 177 Quiz 4— Acts 2:43- 44	Pages 177- 198	Pages 199- 204 Quiz 5— Acts 20:28	Test 2— (Covers pages 87- 204) Pages 205- 227
3	Pages 228- 250	Pages 250- 273 Quiz 6— 1 Cor. 12:27	Pages 273- 296	Page 296- 318 Quiz 7— Heb. 10:23- 24	Page 319- 328	Pages 328- 346 Quiz 8— Heb. 10:25
4	Test 3— (Final) Cumulative	Page 346- 368	Pages 369- 388 Quiz 9— Heb. 13:7	Pages 388- 408	Pages 409- 421 Quiz 10— 1 Peter 5:2	Church Covenant Project

Details of Course Assignments:

- **Videos**

The student is required to watch the *Building a New Testament Church* video lessons at the beginning of the semester. He must have the reading completed before the video is to be watched along with any quizzes submitted. He must take diligent notes during these video sessions. (Note that for the advanced option, the student will be required to watch two videos for several days.)

- **Reading Assignments**

Students are given reading assignments each day and must complete the assignments along with answering the corresponding questions before each lesson begins.

- **Quizzes (10)**

Quizzes will be given on ten Fridays (*for the slower-paced option*) scattered throughout the semester. These quizzes will **only** be verse quizzes.

- **Church Covenant Project**

Using the example Church Covenant found in the back of the book and the information that has been learned during this course, the student will write his own Church Covenant. He must make sure he is very detailed and provides Scripture to back up each belief that is stated in his covenant. He may wish to add questions just as the example includes. He must make sure his church covenant includes all the important topics covered in the book: church membership, standards for workers and music, finances, business meetings, church discipline, statement of faith, and major false doctrines the church rejects. The student should do this project as if it were to be his exact church covenant. This will help prepare him for his future ministries wherever God leads him.

- **Tests (3)**

There will be a total of three tests taken during this semester. Including certain review questions and additional important information in the reading, the tests will be short answer questions. The tests are used to measure how much the student has retained over the course. Tests 1 and 2 will cover specific topics (named in the calendar provided above). Test 3 will be cumulative over the whole course (excluding the sample church covenant found at the end of the book).

Plagiarism Statement: Plagiarism is something that is not tolerated at Way of Life Bible College. Any material taken from another must be clearly documented.