**Long Story Short**

**Part 5**

*“I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me.”*

John 17:20-21 (NLT)

**Why do I as a Christ-follower need to be a part of the Church?**

1. **Only in the church, do I find my true \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.**

*For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God’s word. He did this to present her to himself as a glorious church without a spot or wrinkle or any other blemish. Instead, she will be holy and without fault.*

Ephesians 5:25-27 (NLT)

*Then I heard again what sounded like the shout of a vast crowd or the roar of mighty ocean waves or the crash of loud thunder: “Praise the Lord! For the Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns. Let us be glad and rejoice, and let us give honor to him. For the time has come for the wedding feast of the Lamb, and his bride has prepared herself. She has been given the finest of pure white linen to wear.” For the fine linen represents the good deeds of God’s holy people.*

Revelation 19:6-8 (NLT)

1. **Only in the church, do I find my true \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for Christ.**

*A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other…The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.*

1 Corinthians 12:7, 12-13 (NLT)

*“For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.”*

Matthew 25:35-36 (NLT)