Choosing a Church

The first thing you need to know is that NO church is perfect. They all have problems because they are all run by humans, and no one is perfect.

The next thing is that you want a church that believes and teaches the Bible, and that Jesus is the only way to God and heaven.

John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No man comes to the Father but by me."

Acts 4:12 "There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

I am very sorry if you think this is narrow, and you want to risk your eternal destiny on another idea. I don't! But nearly any protestant church can get you saved. Some are much better than others, so do some shopping if this is what you want.

Pentecostal churches can teach you about the Holy Spirit, the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and the gifts of the Spirit. And these churches are probably more lively and exciting too.

I was raised in the Church of Christ, I spent a year in a Baptist church, another in a Presbyterian church. I spent a total of 12 years in three different Pentecostal churches. And the church I'm in now is the one I want to tell you about next.

This is the only church I know of that believes that Jesus' death on the cross paid for lots more than just a ticket to heaven! I've written a brochure that shows from the Bible that Jesus' death paid for us to have health, long life, wealth, protection, and peace in all relationships. That brochure is called *Faith Facts*.

This is also the only church I know of that believes that everything that happens is NOT God's doing or fault. They (we) believe the Bible which says that Satan is the god (small g) of this world (II Cor. 4:4). He is going to be locked up for one thousand years soon (Rev. 20:2). But until that happens, he is the one who's to blame for the bad things that happen to people. He's the one (actually his little demons) who inspire people to do bad things.

This church teaches that we have authority over him, and we can win in every situation or problem that life throws at us.

Rom. 5:17, "...they which receive abundance of grace and of the gift of righteousness <u>shall reign in life</u>..."

I like this. I am in control of my own life, and I win or lose by the choices I make.

Satan is very scared of us, and that's why you've probably heard lies about us, that we're a cult or worse. They called Jesus demon possessed, so that doesn't concern us. (Mk. 3:22)

Yes, Jesus wants you living long and well, and rich. But just because He wants it doesn't mean it will automatically happen. It's up to each of us if we'll get in on it. There are rules and conditions to meet. We must qualify. To help you I've written other brochures like this one, mini Bible studies, on each of these subjects: God wants to make your life beautiful, If it's God's will then why doesn't it always happen? Objections to the prosperity message answered, Who qualifies for prosperity? And, You can be healed.

We also believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues, and the gifts of the Spirit. Counseling is so much more effective when the counselor can hear from God and go right to the root of the problem with a word from God, then tell exactly what to do about it. If you need a counselor, do some searching to find one who can accurately hear from God.

If you want to find a church that believes like I've described, ask them if they like Kenneth Hagin and Kenneth Copeland. There are others, but these are the most well-known names. You may have heard us called the name-it-and-claim-it bunch or the blab-it-and- grab-it group. Here is what the Bible actually says.

Mark 11 :23 ~ Verily I say unto you, that whosoever shall say to this mountain, Be removed and be cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he says shall come to pass, he shall have whatsoever he says.

So you see, believing and not doubting is what makes the saying work.

The way of faith is awesome. Here is how it works. When fear comes, you'll refuse it by speaking the Word until it's gone. When the devil threatens your marriage or kids, you'll know how to make him leave and speak peace to your household. When sickness comes around, you'll stand against it and stay well; you'll win. Because of the faith confessions of your mouth, you'll live long and healthy. You'll succeed at everything you do, and be rescued and protected no matter what happens. You'll be happy and living in God's perfect and wonderful plan for your life. And you'll also have plenty of opportunities to witness because people will want to be like you!

Please realize that I didn't say you'll never have any problems, but that we will be able to win! To read verses that prove all of these claims, get my brochure called *Faith Facts*. To get explanations with fewer verses, get If it's God's will, then why doesn't it always happen?

Yes, God wants you well and rich! Read some of my other brochures to get help in the areas you feel you need it. Also, you can begin making your life better right now.

Determine to spend some time every day reading in the Bible and praying. Your days will be so much better every day that you do this! Continue and your life will get better and better!

Talk to God about your life. Thank Him for things, and ask Him for things, too. And immediately, thank Him for answering before you see the answer. That's faith. Praise Him for the answers from that day on, and don't allow thoughts of doubt. You do that by speaking thanks to God. I have written other brochures to help you with these things and also about your words, how they can determine the course of your life, James 3:3-5. But it's up to you if you become healthy, rich, and victorious in every situation. You must put forth the effort and the time to do this. It won't be easy, but it surely is worth it. This kind of life is exciting and fulfilling. Our heavenly Father is good.





A mini Bible Study By Cheryl Boone