

The Best Christmas Presents Are Wrapped In Heaven
The Gift of the Church

Eph 5:25-27 – ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her ²⁶ to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word, ²⁷ and to present her to himself as a radiant church, without stain or wrinkle or any other blemish, but holy and blameless.

Eph 2:1 – As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins.

Eph 2:8-10 – ⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— ⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

2 Cor 5:18-19 – ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation.

Matt 16:18 – And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.

1 Peter 2:9-10 – ⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

1) The Church is _____ and _____.

Our position before God is perfect. Our practice before the world is not perfect.

2) The Church is _____ and _____.

Global: The Church is comprised of every single Christian who is presently alive anywhere in the world.

Local: You have the privilege of belonging to a local assembly.

3) The Church is in _____ and on _____.

The Church is the only institution on earth that will be in eternity.

4) The Church exists for the _____ and the _____.

The Church exists to save the lost and disciple the saved.