

Maintain Our Unique Identity?

Church Measured by Word of God

- **Revelation 11:1**
- **Temple of God = the church**
- **Origin – Matthew 16:18**
- **Foundation – Isaiah 28:16; 1 Corinthians 3:10; Ephesians 2:20**
- **Organization – Philippians 1:1; Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 3:8-13; Ephesians 3:21**
- **Name – Hebrews 12:23; Romans 16:16**

Church Measured by Word of God

- **Laws of Admission – Faith (Hebrews 11:6); Repentance (Acts 17:30); Confession (Romans 10:10); Baptism (Galatians 3:27)**

Altar - Worship

- **Apostles' Doctrine- Acts 2:42**
- **Prayer- 1 Timothy 2:8**
- **Kind of Music- Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 13:15**

Church Measured by Word of God

Altar - Worship

- **Apostles' Doctrine- Acts 2:42**
- **Prayer- 1 Timothy 2:8**
- **Kind of Music- Ephesians 5:19; Hebrews 13:15**
- **Lord's Supper- 1 Corinthians 11:23-25**
- **Plan of Raising Money- 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:7**

Church Measured by Word of God

The Worshippers

- **Name- saint, elect, sons, children**
- **“Christian” Acts 11:26**
- **Character- Holy Priesthood 1 Peter 2:5**
- **Obedient to God 1 John 5:3**
- **Kind, patient, longsuffering with one another Ephesians 4:2**
- **Attitude- John 4:23,24**

Dangers That Threaten Identity

- **Modernism – question virgin birth, atonement, inspiration of Bible, etc.**
- **Sectarianism- Loyalty to a man or a group- “One characterized by bigoted adherence to a factional viewpoint.”**
- **Calvinism- more than just the Five Points T.U.L.I.P.**
- **Pentecostalism- emphasize Holy Spirit in Miraculous Manifestations Revelation 2:4,5**

Dangers That Threaten Identity

- **Tendency to Lose Sight of Our Distinctive Plea – 1 Peter 4:11**
- **How can we plead for such if we are ignorant of the “oracles of God?”**
- **Tendencies Toward “Inherited Membership”- Ephesians 6:4**
- **Worldliness Within the Church- Romans 12:1,2**

Dangers That Threaten Identity

- **Tendencies Toward Compromise- Lack of Personal Courage – Modify Truth to Protect Other’s Feelings for Popularity**
- **Lack of Personal Consecration –**
- **Preaching “canned” sermons**
- **Laziness of Bible class teachers**
- **Unwilling to make Necessary Sacrifices**

Some Remedies:

- **Maintain Identity of Separation – 2 Corinthians 6:17**
- **In Speech – 1 Peter 4:11**
- **In Doctrine – Acts 2:42; Titus 2:1**
- **Maintain Identity of Warfare- 2 Corinthians 10:4,5**
- **“Is there not a cause?” 1 Samuel 17:29**
- **Rejection of False Teachers/Teaching- Ephesians 6:10-17**

Some Remedies:

- **Maintain Identity of Sound Preaching- Acts 20:26,27**
- **Preaching the “whole counsel of God not only means talking about fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22,23)**
- **But also condemning the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21).**
- **Not important if message judged as being Positive or Negative – as long as it is the TRUTH**

The Church of Christ

**A Divine Organization
Built by a Divine Pattern
Which Must Not be
Corrupted**

- **1 Corinthians 3:9,10,17**