



Where Did The Church Come From?

1. Jesus establishes the church - Matthew 16:13-18

2. The Early Church birthed - Acts 2: 42-47

3. The Early Church growing and persecuted 30AD -300AD

- Early Church growth into Europe and Asia
- First persecuted by Jews then by the Romans
- Roman siege of Jerusalem in 70AD scattered Jews and Christians.
- Heresies and false teaching - Gnosticism 2nd century,

4. Church and Empire merge- 312AD to 1054

- Emperor Constantine 312 AD
- Christianity become the empire religion

- Nicene Creed 300AD
- Church Leadership titles, Pastor, elder, bishop, priest, Pope
- Augustine 354-430
- First Pope- Gregory 540-604
- Dark Ages
- Great divide 1054- Eastern Orthodox Church formed
- 1095 First Crusade – Pope Urban
- 1400 Creation of 75 Universities in Europe

5. The Protestant Reformation - 1517

- Martin Luther and Protestantism
- Anglican Church of England forms
- Christianity comes to America

6. Missionary movement of the 1800's

7. The Christian Church in America 1900 to today

- Growth
- Influence
- Missions

- Center of Christianity

8. The Evangelical Free Church

- Scandinavian merger in 1950 in US
- Evangelical means committed to authority of Bible for life and practice
- Free means government free from state or denominational control

9. Recent trends in the Church

- Crusades
- Youth ministry
- Jesus movement in 1970's and contemporary worship
- Seeker churches
- Mega churches
- Decline in Mainline denominations
- Growth in Charismatic's, and Evangelical churches
- TV preachers and radio and internet ministry
- Small groups replacing, Sunday night service and prayer meeting
- Missions shift to partnering with nationals

- Compassion ministries to needy and hurting

10. Concerns about the church

- Sin in the camp
- Worship wars
- Low commitment of attendees
- Worldliness and materialism
- Consumer church mentality
- Erosion of Biblical knowledge and truth
- Too much political focus
- Christianity without church

Take it Home- What is your greatest hope for the worldwide church today?