

# Structures to Encourage Biblical Community – Meaningful Membership – Acts 20:28-30

Is Church Membership Biblical?

What makes Church Membership Meaningful?

Why should I be a Church Member?

## **Questions for Discussion & Application:**

1. What was surprising, challenging, or helpful from this study of God's Word?
2. What are the foundations and essential marks of Biblical community that we have looked at in this series?
3. When you think of church membership, what comes to your mind? Why?
4. What are some wrong ways of thinking about church membership?
5. How would you define church membership? Why would meaningful church membership be a structure that helps to encourage Biblical community?

6. How is church membership implied in Acts 20:28? What other scriptures help us to see that the concept of membership is Biblical? (See Matthew 18:15-17, I Corinthians 5:1-5, and Hebrews 13:17.)
7. What do you think makes church membership meaningful? What qualities of meaningful membership do we see in Acts 20:28?
8. Do the qualities of meaningful membership that we see in Acts 20:28 challenge us to change anything about how we practice church membership in our own congregation?
9. Why might a Christian resist making a commitment to being a member of a specific church family? What might help this Christian to take this important step?
9. According to Acts 20:29-30 what potential danger may await the Christian who is outside the care of meaningful membership? (see also Hebrews 3:12-13)
10. What testimony can you share of how being a church member has been a blessing in your own life?

### **Questions for Personal Reflection:**

1. Have you publicly committed to a specific church family as a member? If not, what holds you back?
2. If you are a church member, what steps would God have you take in order to make your participation even more meaningful?