Text: Ephesians 4:11-16 (*Pages 977-978 in Pew Bible*) **Title:** "Church Membership: 5 Helpful Metaphors"

Sermon Series: "God's Church Matters"

1. The Church is the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:11-16)

2. The Church is the Bride of Christ (Ephesians 5:18-33)

3. The Church is <u>God's New People Group & Race</u> (Ephesians 2:11-18)

4. The Church is <u>God's Building & Household</u> (Ephesians 2:19-22)

5. The Church is <u>God's Well-Armored & Advancing Army</u> (Ephesians 6:10-20)

Big Idea: Church membership matters because God calls for **biblical unity** in His Church.

Questions & Application

- If you are <u>not</u> a **member** of a biblical, local church, **why** are you not submitting to God's beautiful plan for local church membership?
- If you are <u>not</u> a **member** of a biblical, local church, you are <u>not</u> reaping the full blessings of **discipleship** that God provides through His Church.
- If you are <u>not</u> a member of a biblical, local church, you are <u>not</u> fully obeying Jesus Christ's Commission to, "Go and make disciples."
- If you <u>are</u> a member of a biblical, local church, how are you serving in and with the <u>Body</u>, <u>Bride</u>, <u>People Group</u>, <u>Building</u>, and <u>Army of Christ?</u>

A biblically healthy and spiritually growing local church will be **actively obeying and learning about** Jesus Christ's commands, principles, and desires for His Church.