SERMON OUTLINE

A BIBLICAL CASE FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP (Selected Scriptures)

Church membership is taught in the Bible

a. Theologically

b. Historically (as seen in the early church)

- It is implied in the records of the early church.
 - The church knew who were in and who were out.
 - Those outside the church knew who were part of the church.
- The church is often portrayed locally.
- The church is described as a congregation of gathered believers.

c. Practically

When you fail to commit to the church you cut yourself off from the grace of the body life in the church.

- Edification of one another (the "one anothers")
- The exercise of spiritual gifts
- You miss out on the responsibility and accountability in church leadership.
- You shield yourself from church discipline.