**Our House**

**Week 1: Ephesians 1:15-23**

What is **THE** church?

* “A visible expression of the body of Christ joined together under Biblical leadership to grow in the likeness of Christ and to express God’s love to all nations.” --Southern Baptist Convention

What does it mean to be a part of **OUR** church?

Three Humbling Truths:

1. We **comprise** the body of Christ.
	1. Two misconceptions:
		1. The church is just a **building**.
		2. The church is just a **business**.
	2. However:
		1. If the church is a **building**, then we are **consumers**.
			1. There is no true **commitment**.
		2. If the church is a **business**, then we are **competitors**.
			1. There is no concrete **doctrine**.
	3. BUT:
		1. If the church is a **body**, then we are a **community of faith**.
			1. We come together based on the unifying power of **Jesus**.
				1. Ephesians 4:4-6
2. We **possess** the authority of Christ.
	1. **Christ** has all power.
	2. The church has the **fullness** of Christ.
		1. 1 Corinthians 3:21-23
		2. Matthew 28:18-20
	3. All authority of Christ in all the universe belongs to the **church**.
		1. Christ, has it **all** and we have **all** of Christ.2
3. We **display** the glory of Christ.
	1. Colossians 1:16-17
	2. God’s desire from the beginning of time was and still is to make Christ’s name known in all **nations**.
		1. But, He is **sitting** at the right hand of the Father.
			1. Acts 2:32-33
	3. We are the **means** by which His glory is made known.
		1. **Walls** do not reflect the glory of Christ.
	4. Christ is continually revealing Himself to the nations through His **fullness** in the church.
		1. What if God was saying, “Look at the **church** and you will see my **Son**,”?