

Alive - continued

The Generous Members

Generous members keep the church alive. They are generous with their contribution (2 Corinthians 9:6-7), their time (Acts 8:14-15; 11:22-23), their talents (Acts 8:4; 13:1; Galatians 6:1-2; Ephesians 4:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:14; 2 Timothy 2:2), and their possessions (Acts 2; 4).

The United Members

United members keep the church alive. They desire to be united in matters of judgment (Romans 14; Philippians 4:1-2), united in Bible doctrine (Ephesians 4:1-6), united in respect for authority (Hebrews 13:17), and united in attitude (3 John 9-10).

Who Is Keeping This Church Alive ?

Will this local church be present here in years to come? Will it be here for your children, your grandchildren, and the lost? It will be here if it stays alive. It will not be here if it dies. Do you have a genuine and personal interest in keeping this local church alive now? Let's all do the work it takes to keep this local church alive!

- Chris Reeves -

Sentence Sermons

- A Christian must strive without strife and contend without contention.
- Don't go anywhere Christ would not go with you.
- It is better to forgive and forget, than to resent and remember.
- Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow; it empties today of its joy.
- Humble yourselves in the sight of God.

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Assembly Times
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm
Wednesday: 7 pm

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

Who Is Keeping This Church Alive?

*And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars: I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and **thou art dead**. Be thou watchful, and establish the things that remain, which were ready to die: for I have found no works of thine perfected before my God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and didst hear; and keep it, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.*

- Revelation 3:1-3

The Apostle John wrote to the church at Sardis and said that they were “dead” spiritually. They were not completing their works for the Lord. They were not active. One sign that a person is dead is there is no activity; no brain wave activity and no heart beat activity. In the same way, a local church (group of Christians) can be spiritually dead or alive. Is this church dead or alive? If it is alive, then who is keeping it alive? That’s a good question.

The Local Church: Alive or Dead?

The local church can be spiritually

alive when each member is raised to walk in newness of life. Each member needs to live in a way that he or she is “dead unto sin, but alive unto God in Christ Jesus (Romans 6:11). You know that the local church is alive when it is bearing fruit for the Lord (Romans 6:22), just like you know a fruit tree is alive when it is bearing fruit. The local church can be spiritually dead as we have already mentioned concerning Sardis (Revelation 3:1-2).

We obviously want to be a local church that is alive. If the local church is to stay alive, what do members need to do? Who is keeping the church alive? The members who keep the church alive are healthy, dependable, willing, generous, and united members.

The Healthy Members

Healthy members keep the church alive. They are spiritually healthy in the sound words of the gospel (2 Timothy 1:18; Titus 2:1-2). They know their Bible well.

Healthy members are spiritually healthy in their speech (Titus 2:8). What they say matches the truth of God’s word.

The Dependable Members

Dependable members keep the church alive. They can be counted on to serve God (Matthew 25:21).

Dependable members can be counted on to do the Lord’s work (Acts 9:26-28; Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians 12:12ff; Ephesians 4:16).

Dependable members can be counted on to be present at the worship assemblies (Hebrews 10:25).

Dependable members can be counted on to offer up meaningful worship (Acts 2:42; 1 Corinthians 11; 14).

Dependable members can be counted on to fight against the Devil (2 Timothy 2:4).

The Willing Members

Willing members keep the church alive. They are willing to take on new tasks (Acts 6:1-6). They are willing to stand with their brethren (Acts 14:20). They are willing to learn more of God’s word (2 Peter 1:5; 3:18). They are willing to stand for truth (Jude 3). They are willing to stay pure (Matthew 5:13; Philippians 2:15; James 1:27; 1 Peter 2:11-12). - continued