

My Purpose Driven Bible Diary

The following are key Bible passages on the nature of the church taken from Rick Warren's book *The Purpose Driven Church*." I suggest you meditate on one per day and share your thoughts and inspirations. SMN 6/19/08

June 20 - Matthew 5:13-16 13 "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt has become tasteless, how will it be made salty again? It is good for nothing anymore, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot by men. 14. "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15. "Nor do [men] light a lamp, and put it under the peck-measure, but on the lampstand; and it gives light to all who are in the house. 16. "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

June 21 - Matthew 9:35 And Jesus was going about all the cities and the villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness

June 22 - Matthew 11:28-30 28 "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. 29. "Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart; and you shall find rest for your souls. 30. "For My yoke is easy, and My load is light."

June 23 - Matthew 16:15-19 15. He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16. And Simon Peter answered and said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." 17. And Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal [this] to you, but My Father who is in heaven. 18. "And I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades shall not overpower it. 19. "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

June 24 - Matthew 18:19-20 19. "Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven. 20. "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, there I am in their midst."

June 25 - Matthew 22:36-40 36. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37. And He said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38. "This is the great and foremost commandment. 39. "The second is like it, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40. "On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets."

June 26 - Matthew 14:14 And when He went ashore, He saw a great multitude, and felt compassion for them, and healed their sick.

June 27 - Matthew 25:34-40 34. "Then the King will say to those on His right, 'Come, you who are blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35. 'For I was hungry, and you gave Me [something] to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger, and you invited Me in; 36. naked, and you clothed Me; I was sick, and you visited Me; I was in prison, and you came to Me.' 37. "Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry, and feed You, or thirsty, and give You drink? 38. 'And when did we see You a stranger, and invite You in, or naked, and clothe You? 39. 'And when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' 40. "And the King will answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, to the extent that you did it to one of these brothers of Mine, [even] the least [of them], you did it to Me.'

June 28 - Matthew 28:18-20 18. And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19. "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, 20. teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

June 29 - Mark 10:43-45 43. "But it is not so among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant; 44. and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be slave of all. 45. "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

June 30 - Luke 4:18-19 18. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are downtrodden, 19. To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord."

July 1 - Luke 4:43-45 43. But He said to them, "I must preach the kingdom of God to the other cities also, for I was sent for this purpose." 44. And He kept on preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

July 2 - John 4:23 "But an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

July 3 - John 10:14-18 14. "I am the good shepherd; and I know My own, and My own know Me, 15. even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16. "And I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they shall hear My voice; and they shall become one flock [with] one shepherd. 17. "For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. 18. "No one has taken it away from Me, but I lay it down on My own initiative. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This commandment I received from My Father."

July 4 - John 13:34-35 34. "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another. 35. "By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

July 5 - John 20:21 Jesus therefore said to them again, "Peace [be] with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."

July 6 - Acts 1:8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

July 7 - Acts 2:41-17 17. 'And it shall be in the last days,' God says, 'That I will pour forth of My Spirit upon all mankind; And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, And your young men shall see visions, And your old men shall dream dreams; 18. Even upon My bondslaves, both men and women, I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit And they shall prophesy. 19. 'And I will grant wonders in the sky above, And signs on the earth beneath, Blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke. 20. 'The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the great and glorious day of the Lord shall come. 21. 'And it shall be, that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' 22. "Men of Israel, listen to these words: Jesus the Nazarene, a man attested to you by God with miracles and wonders and signs which God performed through Him in your midst, just as you yourselves know-- 23. this Man, delivered up by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death. 24. "And God raised Him up again, putting an end to the agony of death, since it was impossible for Him to be held in its power. 25. "For David says of Him, 'I was always beholding the Lord in my presence; For He is at my right hand, that I may not be shaken. 26. 'Therefore my heart was glad and my tongue exulted; Moreover my flesh also will abide in hope; 27. Because Thou wilt not abandon my soul to Hades, Nor allow Thy Holy One to undergo decay. 28. 'Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; Thou wilt make me full of gladness with Thy presence.' 29. "Brethren, I may confidently say to you regarding the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30. "And so, because he was a prophet, and knew that God had sworn to him with an oath to seat one of his descendants upon his throne, 31. he looked ahead and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was neither abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh suffer decay. 32. "This Jesus God raised up again, to which we are all witnesses. 33. "Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear. 34. "For it was not David who ascended into heaven, but he himself says: "The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at My right hand, 35. Until I make Thine enemies a footstool for Thy feet.'" 36. "Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain that God has made Him both Lord and Christ-- this Jesus whom you crucified." 37. Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?" 38. And Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39. "For the promise is for you and your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our

God shall call to Himself." 40. And with many other words he solemnly testified and kept on exhorting them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation!" 41. So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

July 8 - Acts 4:32-35 32. And the congregation of those who believed were of one heart and soul; and not one [of them] claimed that anything belonging to him was his own; but all things were common property to them. 33. And with great power the apostles were giving witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and abundant grace was upon them all. 34. For there was not a needy person among them, for all who were owners of land or houses would sell them and bring the proceeds of the sales, 35. and lay them at the apostles' feet; and they would be distributed to each, as any had need.

July 9 - Acts 5:42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

July 10 - Acts 6:1-7 1. Now at this time while the disciples were increasing [in number], a complaint arose on the part of the Hellenistic [Jews] against the [native] Hebrews, because their widows were being overlooked in the daily serving of food. 2. And the twelve summoned the congregation of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable for us to neglect the word of God in order to serve tables. 3. "But select from among you, brethren, seven men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may put in charge of this task. 4. "But we will devote ourselves to prayer, and to the ministry of the word." 5. And the statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch. 6. And these they brought before the apostles; and after praying, they laid their hands on them. 7. And the word of God kept on spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith.

July 11 - Romans 12:1-8 1. I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship. 2. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. 3. For through the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith. 4. For just as we have many members in one body and all the members do not have the same function, 5. so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6. And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly: if prophecy, according to the proportion of his faith; 7. if service, in his serving; or he who teaches, in his teaching; 8. or he who exhorts, in his exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness.

July 12 - Romans 15:1-7 1. Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not just please ourselves. 2. Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to his edification. 3. For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached Thee fell upon Me." 4. For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. 5. Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus; 6. that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7. Wherefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

July 13 - Corinthians 12:12-31 12. For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit. 14. For the body is not one member, but many. 15. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 16. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body. 17. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? 18. But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired. 19. And if they were all one member, where would the body be? 20. But now there are many members, but one body. 21. And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22. On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary; 23. and those members of the body, which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our unseemly members come to have more abundant seemliness, 24. whereas our seemly members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked, 25. that there should be no division in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. 26. And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it. 27. Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it. 28. And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues. 29. All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they? 30. All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? 31. But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.

July 14 - 1 Corinthians 5:17-6:1 17. Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. 18. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ, and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19. namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. 20. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were entreating through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21. He made

Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. **2Cor 6:1**. And working together with Him, we also urge you not to receive the grace of God in vain-

July 15 - Galatians 5:13-15 13. For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. 14. For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." 15. But if you bite and devour one another, take care lest you be consumed by one another.

July 16 - Galatians 6:1-2 1. Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2. Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ.

July 17 - Ephesians 1:22-23 22. And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and gave Him as head over all things to the church, 23. which is His body, the fulness of Him who fills all in all.

July 18 - Ephesians 2:19-22 19. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household, 20. having been built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus Himself being the corner [stone], 21. in whom the whole building, being fitted together is growing into a holy temple in the Lord; 22. in whom you also are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit.

July 19 - Ephesians 3:6 to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel,

July 20 - Ephesians 3:14-21 14. For this reason, I bow my knees before the Father, 15. from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, 16. that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man; 17. so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; [and] that you, being rooted and grounded in love, 18. may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19. and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fulness of God. 20. Now to Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us, 21. to Him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

July 21 - Ephesians 4:11-16 11. And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12. for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ; 13. until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14. As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every

wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; 15. but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ, 16. from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

July 22 - Ephesians 5:23-24 23. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. 24. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

July 23 - Colossians 1:24-28 24. Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I do my share on behalf of His body (which is the church) in filling up that which is lacking in Christ's afflictions. 25. Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God, 26. that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the past ages and generations; but has now been manifested to His saints, 27. to whom God willed to make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 28. And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.

July 24 - Colossians 3:15-16 15. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful. 16. Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms [and] hymns [and] spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

July 25 - 1 Thessalonians 1:3 constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,

July 26 - 1 Thessalonians 5:11 Therefore encourage one another, and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

July 27 - Hebrews 10:24-25 24. and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, 25. not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

July 28 - Hebrews 13:7-17 7. Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith. 8. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today, yes and forever. 9. Do not be carried away by varied and strange teachings; for it is good for the heart to be strengthened by grace, not by foods, through which those who were thus occupied were not benefited. 10. We have an altar, from which those who serve the tabernacle have no right to eat. 11. For the bodies of those animals whose blood is brought into the holy place by the high priest as an offering for sin, are burned outside the camp. 12. Therefore Jesus also, that He might sanctify the people through His own blood, suffered outside the gate. 13. Hence, let us go out to Him

outside the camp, bearing His reproach. 14. For here we do not have a lasting city, but we are seeking [the city] which is to come. 15. Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name. 16. And do not neglect doing good and sharing; for with such sacrifices God is pleased. 17. Obey your leaders, and submit [to them]; for they keep watch over your souls, as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.

July 29 - 1 Peter 2:9-10 9. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10. for you once were not a people, but now you are the people of God; you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

July 30 - 1 John 1:5-7 5. And this is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is light, and in Him there is no darkness at all. 6. If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth; 7. but if we walk in the light as He Himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

July 31 - 1 John 4:7-21 7. Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8. The one who does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9. By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. 10. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son to be the propitiation for our sins. 11. Beloved, if God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. 12. No one has beheld God at any time; if we love one another, God abides in us, and His love is perfected in us. 13. By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. 14. And we have beheld and bear witness that the Father has sent the Son to be the Savior of the world. 15. Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. 16. And we have come to know and have believed the love which God has for us. God is love, and the one who abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17. By this, love is perfected with us, that we may have confidence in the day of judgment; because as He is, so also are we in this world. 18. There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves punishment, and the one who fears is not perfected in love. 19. We love, because He first loved us. 20. If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen. 21. And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also