## What <u>should</u> I be looking for in a church?

This question is the most important concern someone desiring to find a church should be asking themselves.

We believe the answer to that question may be briefly summarized as, a church:

- That correctly understands and faithfully practices what God, through the Bible, teaches and commands.
- That takes seriously its responsibility for teaching its members to become competent, <u>themselves</u>, in understanding and practicing all that God has commanded in the Bible.
- Which gathers faithfully to worship God in ways that He finds acceptable, as defined in the Scriptures.
- Which is able to equip me in the exercise of <u>all my responsibilities for</u> <u>showing God as holy and living in every sphere of life, as a true</u> <u>believer in all that God has said</u>. This will affect deeply all my relationships as a Christian; as a spouse, parent, child, church member, citizen, employer/employee, teacher/student...
- That embraces, without reservation:
  - The Belief that Scripture is God's Infallible Word
  - A Centering on the God of the Bible
  - $\circ$   $\,$  God's Glory as Foremost in all that He Does  $\,$
  - Salvation by Grace through Faith
  - Salvation as God's Work, from First to Last
  - Regeneration Preceding Faith
  - Christ's Atonement Actual and Particular
- That is a healthy church, **fully functioning as the biblical family of God;** loving, nurturing/caring for, encouraging, and tenderly and patiently correcting with the truth in love, in the context of the body-life of the church family.