Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Returning to Our Roots

Three Cheers for the Church

Philippians 1:1–18, 23–27

The Heart of the Matter

What a remarkable thing Christ is doing! Out of every continent, country, and nation, He is reaching out to build His body, the church. Held together by the cords of love and unity, groups of people the world over gather to celebrate their faith. But the church is not only universal in scope; it is local as well. Small parts of the whole . . . geographical segments of called-out ones, placed in suburban communities, quiet countrysides, and busy, metropolitan sites. In these places, music and message mingle to refresh sagging spirits, confront wrong, point the way, model the truth, help the hurting, hold out hope to the discouraged, rescue the perishing, and care for the dying. These places of worship are also unique for their observance of two ancient ordinances—the Lord's Table and the act of water baptism.

Discovering the Way

1. For a Few Moments, Remember Some Churches (Philippians 1:1–11)

The Philippian church provides an excellent model for the ways that the church is tied to all aspects of the believer's life.

2. Why the Local Church Is So Significant (Philippians 1:12–18, 23–27)

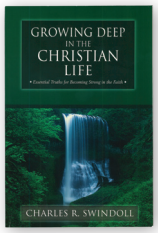
The church has significance to the world, the community, and the Christian.

Starting Your Journey

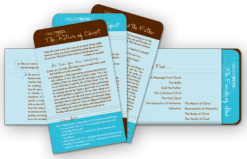
As we embrace life in the church, God has directed His people to practice two celebrations unique to those who follow Jesus—baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Tools for Digging Deeper

Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Returning to Our Roots
by Charles R. Swindoll
CD series of 23 CDs



Growing Deep in the Christian Life: Essential Truths for Becoming Strong in the Faith
by Charles R. Swindoll
softcover book



Essential Truths: A Pocket Guide for Growing Deep
by Insight for Living
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