

THE FOUNDATIONS OF FELLOWSHIP

(Video Five)

Church Membership:

- Although there is no mention of a church _____ in the New Testament, it is obviously implied in the book of Acts (Acts 2:41; 4:4, 47; 5:13).

The two basic requirements for local church membership are _____ in Christ (Acts 2:41; 4:4; 4:32) and _____ (Acts 2:41; 8:36-38; 9:18; 10:47). Baptism is the outward act that portrays the inner transformation that has taken place.

- The obligations of membership in a local church are many and are mentioned throughout the New Testament. They include adherence to the apostles _____ or what's normally called the church's statement of faith (Acts 2:42). Refer to the statement of faith included on the first page of FBC's constitution. Other obligations include observing the _____ (Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 11:23-26), praying for fellow members (Acts 2:42), _____ public worship (Acts 2:46; Heb. 10:25), _____ (Acts 2:45, 1 Cor. 16:1-2), maintaining unity or fellowship with other believers (Acts 2:42; 46), and _____ to church leadership (1 Thess. 5:12; Heb. 13:17).
- In addition to the basic obligations of church membership, every church member has an obligation to edify other members of the body (Eph. 4:11-12). To *edify* means to _____ or _____ up. Although it includes the words we speak (Eph. 4:29), it implies more than just dispensing verbal encouragement. It also refers to the exercise of spiritual gifts that every believer possesses (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:7; 11). There were certain temporary spiritual gifts that were foundational to the establishment of the early church that have now passed off the scene (see supplemental information). Some permanent spiritual gifts remain (see supplemental information). Every believer has an obligation to _____ and _____ his or her gift(s) for the edification of the body of Christ. A spiritual gifts inventory is provided with this lesson to help you with the discovery of

your gift(s).