

Chapter 1

A Sunday Morning Meditation

Background Scripture: Deuteronomy 6:4-5; Psalms 2:8; 73:1; 96:1-3; 100:1; 130:7; 135:4; Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:6; 28:19-20; Luke 1:54; 19:46a; Acts 2:47; 11:26; 13:23; 14:23; 20:28; Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:28; Ephesians 5:25, 27; Colossians 1:10, 18; 1 Timothy 3:15; 6:18; Titus 2:14; Hebrews 10:25

In This Session: We will examine the ways in which all believers work together as the Church.

Getting Ready

1. Decide how you want to present the questions in activity **1A** and prepare before the session begins.
2. Contact the four persons you intend to utilize in activity **2A** so they can be prepared to share their favorite with the group.
3. Decide which of the options in activity **4** will best suit your group so you can do any necessary preparation before the session.
4. It would be a good idea to page through the rest of this book to familiarize yourself with how the subsequent sessions are planned.
5. Make sure you have copies of the NIV (*New International Version*) Bible available every week in the room in case your adults do not bring a Bible to the session with them.

1. Getting Started (5 min.)

A. Start your group thinking about today's subject by asking the following questions. You can throw these out to the entire group; or you can write them on slips of paper, place in a jar or basket, and have volunteers answer them one at a time. Others in the group could add to the answers.

- What's the first word that comes to your mind when you hear the word *church*?
- Why do you come to church?
- If you wanted to invite someone to church, what would you give as the number one reason he or she should come?
- Describe our town as you think it might be if there were no churches.
- If you were writing a newspaper article about your church, what would you use for a title?
- If you were sick and could not attend church, what would you miss the most?

Option: You might put these questions on your display device before the session so that the participants could discuss the questions in groups of two or three.

B. Ask the group to help you make an acrostic, highlighting important elements in the Church. Put the word "church" vertically on your display device.

(Following is an example: