

# **DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH**

**June – August 2014**

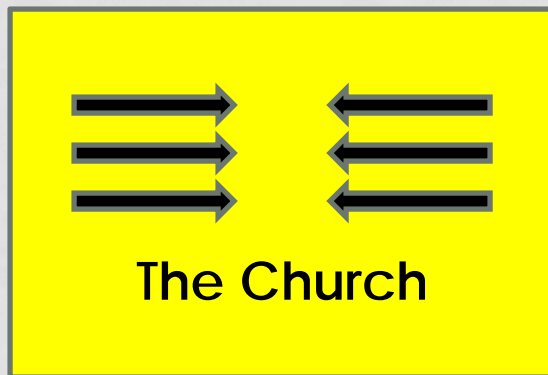
# LESSON 9

## The Nurture of The church

# **FUNCTIONS OF THE CHURCH**

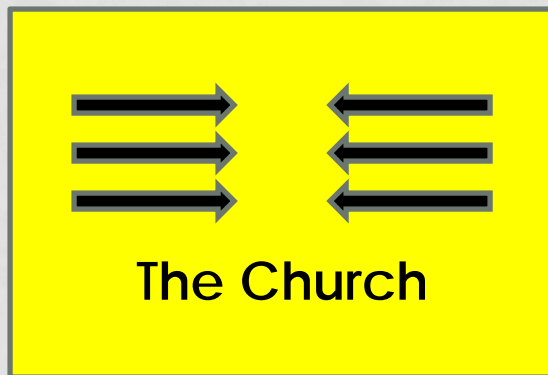
- **Worship**
- **Edification (Nurture)**
- **Witness (Evangelization)**

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

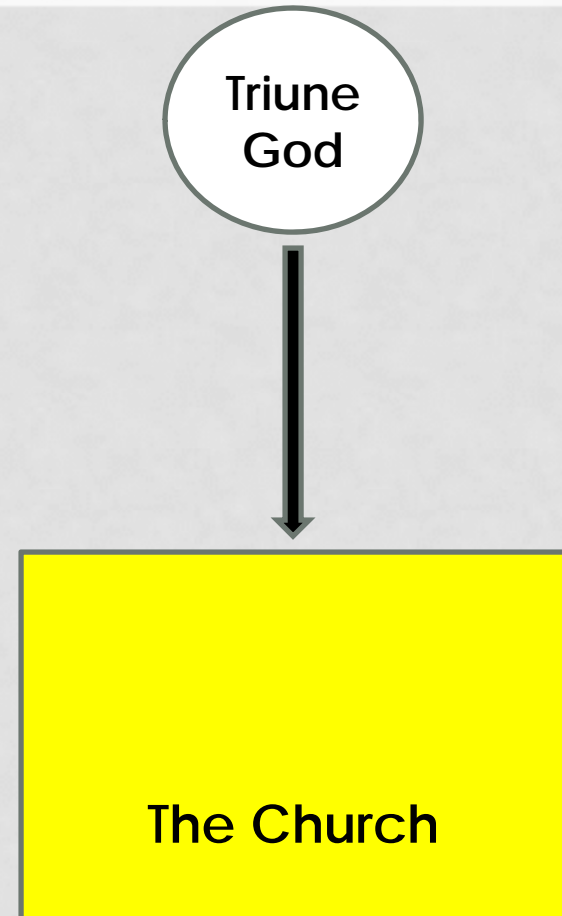


# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

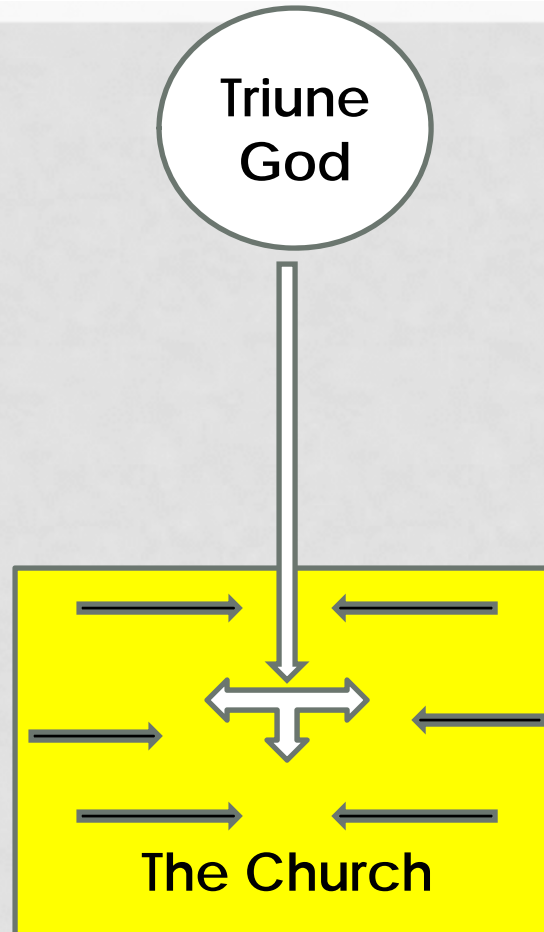
a.



b.



# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH





# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- “....bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (KJV) ~ Ephesians 6:4
- The Gk. Word used can be translated...  
nurture, training, instruction, correction,  
chasten
- “to help in the growth or development of”

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- God the Father- instructs and disciplines
- God the Son – teaches
- God the Holy Spirit – transforms and comforts
- The ultimate goal of Nurture



# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- Parent/child image
- “But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her children” ~ 1 Thes 2:7
- “Feed the church of God” (KJV) ~ Acts 20:28
- Parable of the Prodigal Son ~ Luke 15
- “...How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you would not” ~ Matt 23:37

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Nurture of God the Father
- By instruction Psalm 32:8
- "...thus says the Lord, Israel is My son, My firstborn. So I say to you, let my son go that he may serve Me..." ~ Ex 4:22,23
- *(What nurture by way of instruction did God have for "his son" in the wilderness?)*
- The Law (what was required of them)
- Tabernacle (God's holiness, in their midst, sacrifice)
- Manna (Man can not live by bread alone ~ Dt 8:3)

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Nurture of God the Father
- By discipline
- “As a man disciplines (*chastens*) his son, so the Lord disciplines (*chastens*) you” ~ Dt. 8:5
- “And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: My son do not despise the chastening of the Lord, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him. For whom the Lord loves He chastens and scourges every son whom He receives” ~ Heb. 12:5,6

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Nurture of God the Son
- By learning to know God from Him
- “Take my yoke upon you and learn from Me for I am gentle and lowly in heart and you will find rest for your souls” ~ Matt 11:29
- “...Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him” ~ Matt 11:27b

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Nurture of God the Son
- By learning the way
- Nurturing is giving direction
  - Ephesians 4:14 and James 1:6 (warning about have no direction)
- Christians were known as “People of the Way”
  - “But this I confess to you that according to the Way, which they call a sect, so I worship the God of my fathers...” ~ Acts 24:14a
  - “I am the way the way the truth and the life, no man comes to the Father except through Me.” ~ Jn 14:6



# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Nurture of God the Holy Spirit
- By His Transforming Work

*“The Spirit transforms the whole person, not just the ‘spirit’.* ~ Clowney

- “But we with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image, from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.” ~ 2 Cor 3:18



# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Nurture of God the Holy Spirit
- By His Work of Comfort

*“And I [Jesus] will pray the Father and He will send another Comforter [Helper], that He may abide with you forever. Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world can not receive because it sees Him not, neither knows Him, but you know Him, for He will dwell with you and be in you. I will not leave you comfortless [orphans], I will come to you.” ~ John 14:16-18*

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Goal of Nurture

*"The goal of nurture is to grow to maturity in the image of Christ" ~ Clowney*

**"...till we all come to the unity of the faith and the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ." ~ Eph 4:13**

**"But we with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image, from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord." ~ 2 Cor 3:18**

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Goal of Nurture

*“The goal of nurture is to grow to maturity in the image of Christ” ~ Clowney*

“For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...” ~ Rom 8:29

“I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” ~ Phil 3:14

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

- The Goal of Nurture

*"The goal of nurture is to grow to maturity in the image of Christ" ~ Clowney*

"Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." " ~ 1 John 3:2

# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

Meanwhile.....

Remember we are members of Christ's Church, that we are members one to another, and that we are sinners.

## How shall we then live?

Let us consider one another in  
order to stir up love and good works.  
*~ Hebrews 10:24*



# NURTURE OF THE CHURCH

