Membership Series (#1): What is the Church?

- Definition of the Church

- Features of the church

- Applying the features of the church

Application: What is the Church?

1. As we begin a series on membership it would be helpful to think through what reservations or questions you have regarding church membership? What is the source of these e.g. experience, emotions, want more teaching?

2. What is the definition of "Church?" What is the difference and relationship between the 'universal/invisible church' and the 'local/visible church'?

3. How does one become a member of the universal church? Are you a member of the universal church?

4. Look up the following verses and prayerfully reflect on the features of the church: Matt 16:18; 18:17-20; Acts 20:28; Eph 3:8-11, 20-21; 5:22-33; 1 Tim 3:15; Heb 10:24-25

5. In what context were these features best applied and demonstrated in the NT?

6. Assuming you want to love what Christ loves and commit to what Christ is committed to:
   a. what is the love and commitment Christ has shown the church and
   b. how does this match up with your love and commitment to the church?

7. How would you respond to someone who claims to be a believer but doesn't think it's necessary to go to church?

8. Respond in prayer and praise as you reflect upon God calling you out of slavery to sin and into His community (the church)

9. Spend time this week praying for Grace Bible Church e.g. the people in our congregation, the leadership, the different ministries, opportunities for evangelism, spiritual growth, our purity, and unity.

Sermon Notes for Children (or Children at Heart)

Date_____   Pastor _____

Book	Sermon Main Points *Membership Series (#___)*	Other Bible References:
	What is the _____?	_____
Chapter		_____
	D_____ of the _____	_____
		_____
Verses	F_____ of the _____	_____
		_____
	A_____ the F_____ of the _____	_____
		_____
		_____
		_____

Words you heard during the sermon (tally each time)

God/Father	Christ/Jesus/Lord	Church	Member(s)/ Membership	Paul	Together	Universal/ Local

What is the message about? _____

How can you do this? _____

What/who can you pray for? _____

Draw a picture related to the message: