

BUILDINGS

What is the Church? If you were to ask the average person on the street, “What is the church?” they might reply, “It’s a building where Christians meet for worship services.” But we as Christians know that the church is much more than a building – it is a gathering of people, but current restrictions mean that gathering is no longer an option anymore. 1 Peter 2:5 says that we are living stones being built into not a physical but a spiritual building. The Holy Spirit lives inside us. We are literally God’s temple, so while we may not feel like it, though we are separated by distance we are still a part of the body of Christ. The building may be peripheral but the body is not.

There are different types of buildings, and there are different types of building materials. There are foundation stones, and there are windows, and shingles, and many other parts, and in their place they each have a unique function and purpose. Shingles don’t make good windows, and windows don’t make good foundations, but in fulfilling their role they are indispensable. Paul related this in 1 Corinthians 12, using the metaphor of the body, each part with a different, but important role.

What would this building be without all of its valuable parts, and what if you were missing body parts? You would be impaired, less able to function. The same with the Church, which is made up of people. Without everyone doing their part, we are not able to function as we could. And just as an arm or a leg would get weak and atrophy without exercise, so the individual Christian will grow weak without using their gifts.

Today, we have the opportunity to contribute to the body of the Church, our physical buildings maybe closed but our spiritual ministry hasn’t ceased. Each ministry, every volunteer plays an important role in building up our Church. The easiest way to return tithes and offerings during this time is via e-giving, log onto the website egiving.org.au or download the app to give to the offering of the day or setup a recurring donation. Alternately, local churches and conferences have online banking options available.

