

Acts 2:47

“Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.”

Acts 20:28

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.”

The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it



Ephesians 4:11,12

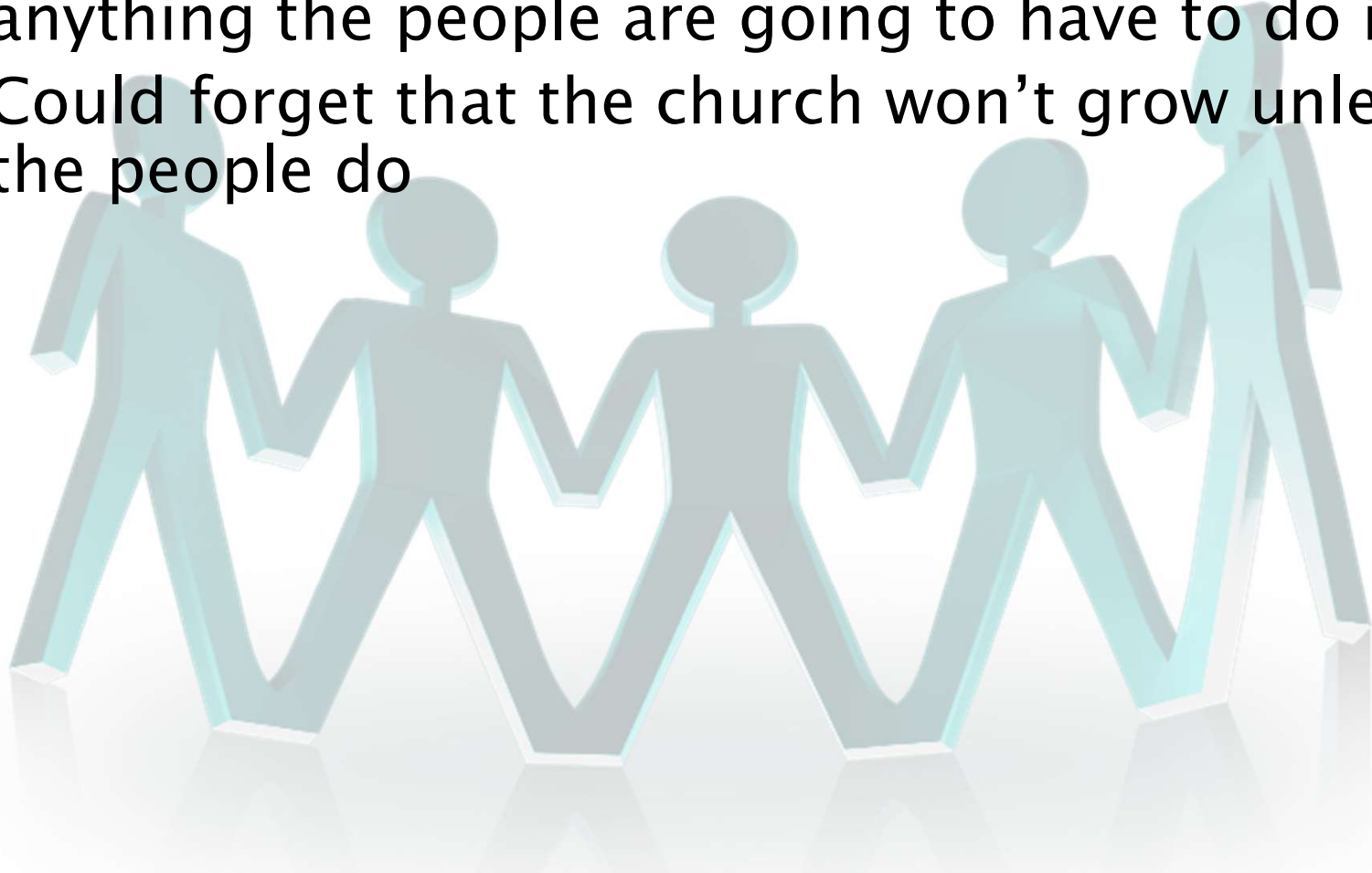
“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”



The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it
- Could forget that the church won't grow unless the people do



Ephesians 4:11-13

“And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:”



Revelation 2:14-16

“But I have a few things against thee, because thou hast there them that hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balac to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed unto idols, and to commit fornication. So hast thou also them that hold the doctrine of the Nicolaitans, which thing I hate. Repent; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.”



I Corinthians 5:1-2,6-7

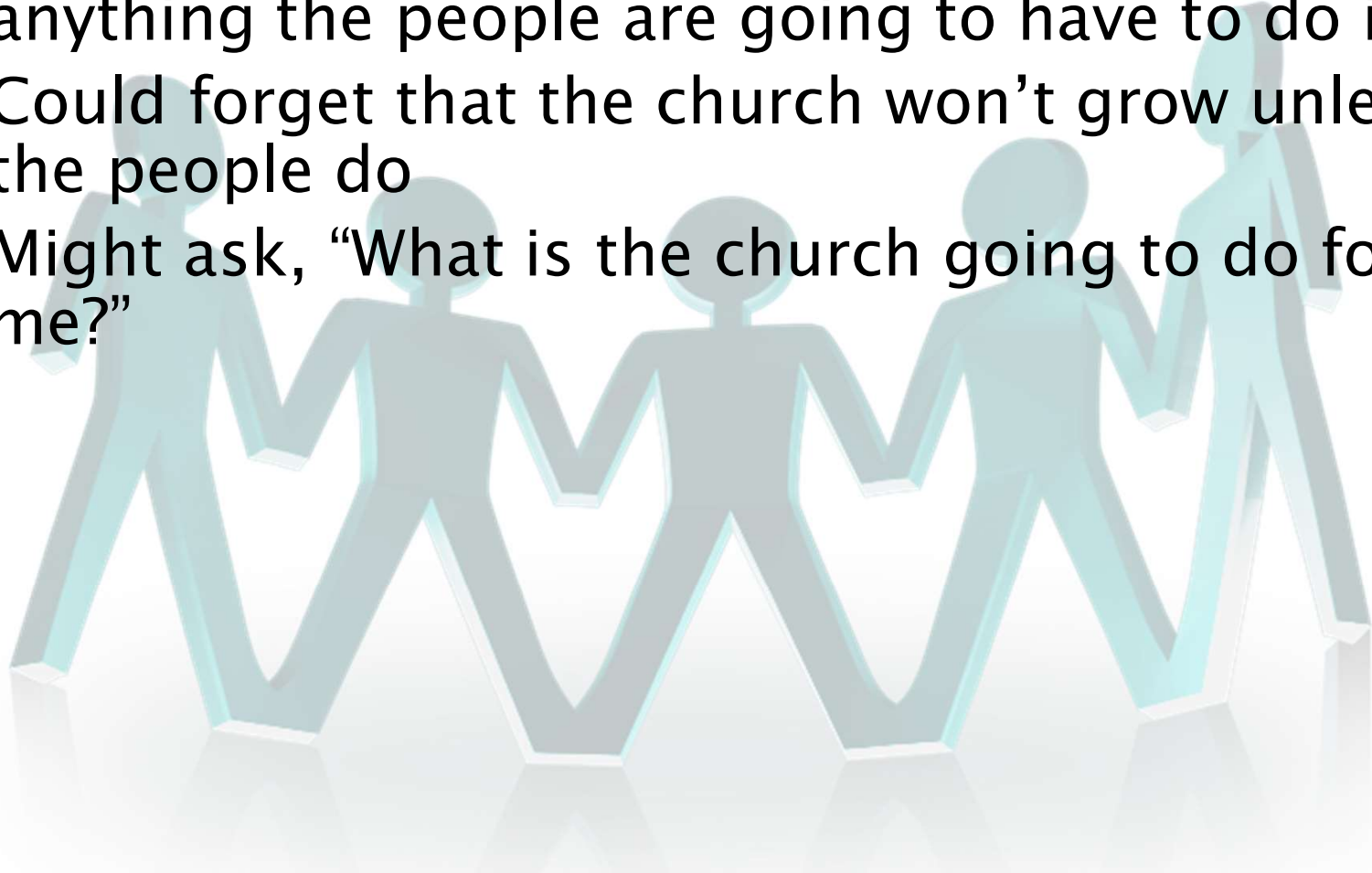
“It is reported commonly that there is fornication among you, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, that one should have his father's wife. And ye are puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you... Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Purge out therefore the old leaven, that ye may be a new lump, as ye are unleavened. For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us:”



The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it
- Could forget that the church won't grow unless the people do
- Might ask, "What is the church going to do for me?"



Philippians 2:3-7

“Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:”



Mark 10:42-45

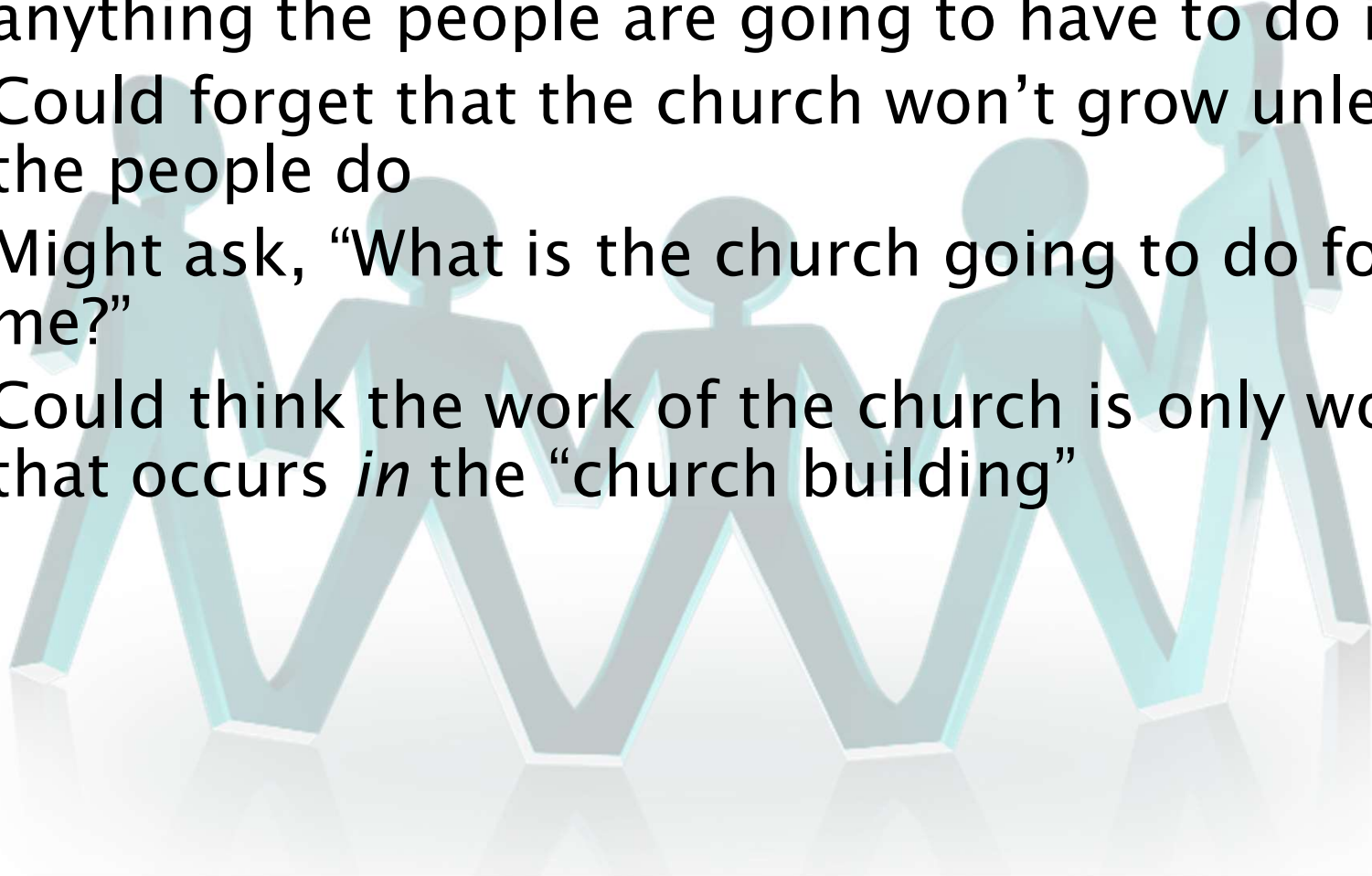
“But Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: And whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many”



The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it
- Could forget that the church won't grow unless the people do
- Might ask, "What is the church going to do for me?"
- Could think the work of the church is only work that occurs *in* the "church building"



James 1:27

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.”



Matthew 5:14-16

“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”



Mark 16:15-16

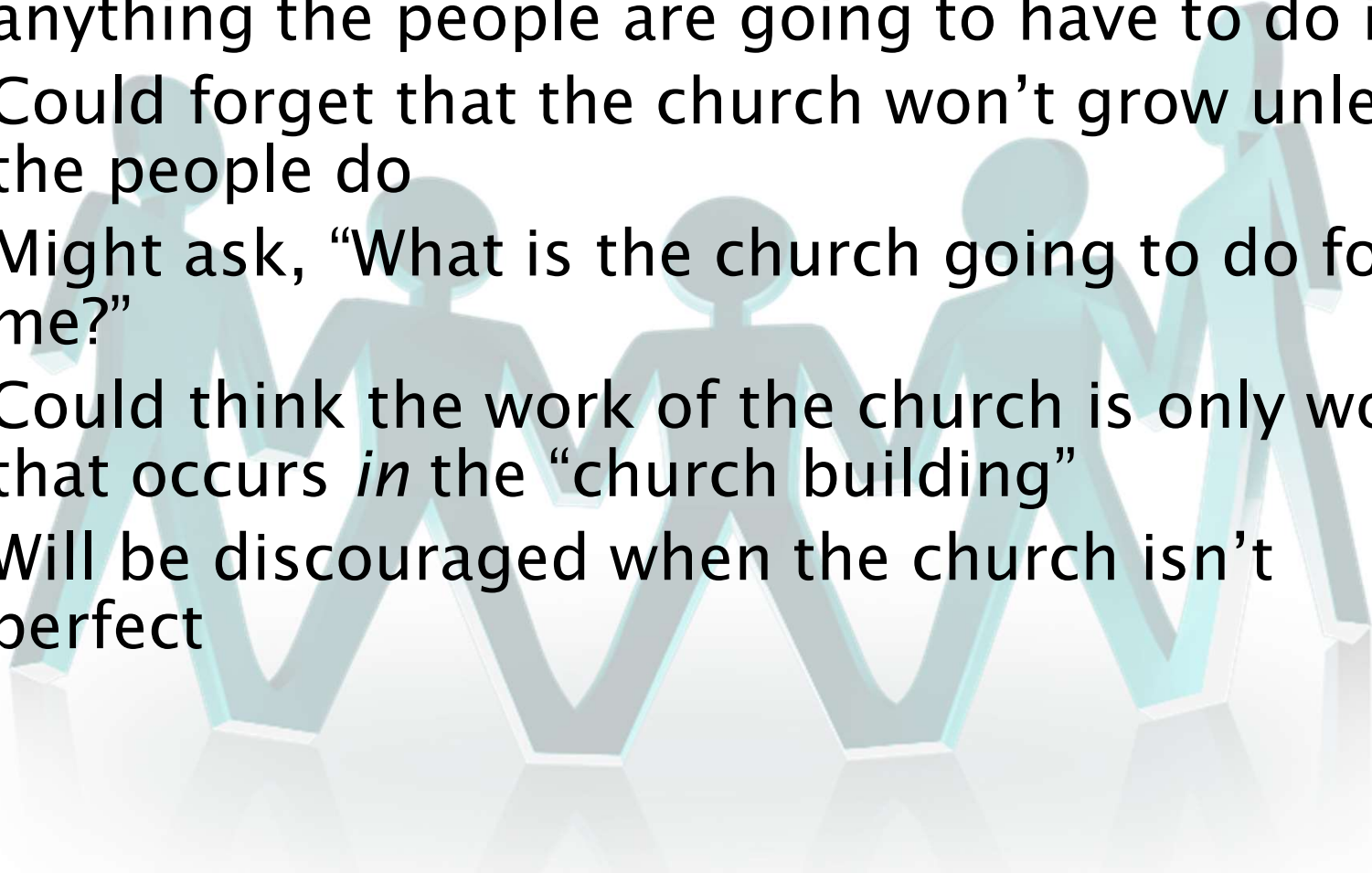
“And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”



The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it
- Could forget that the church won't grow unless the people do
- Might ask, "What is the church going to do for me?"
- Could think the work of the church is only work that occurs *in* the "church building"
- Will be discouraged when the church isn't perfect



I John 1:8-10

“If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.”



Philippians 3:12-14

“Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”



The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it
- Could forget that the church won't grow unless the people do
- Might ask, "What is the church going to do for me?"
- Could think the work of the church is only work that occurs *in* the "church building"
- Will be discouraged when the church isn't perfect
- Could think that the only thing you need to do to be pleasing to God is join the right church

I Peter 1:17

“And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:”



Revelation 3:1-4

“And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath the seven Spirits of God, and the seven stars; I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead. Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shalt not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee.

Thou hast a few names even in Sardis

which have not defiled their garments; and they shall walk with me in white: for they are worthy.”



The Dangers of Forgetting That the Church is the People

If we forget the church is the people, we:

- Could forget that if the church is going to do anything the people are going to have to do it
- Could forget that the church won't grow unless the people do
- Might ask, "What is the church going to do for me?"
- Could think the work of the church is only work that occurs *in* the "church building"
- Will be discouraged when the church isn't perfect
- Could think that the only thing you need to do to be pleasing to God is join the right church