



Daily Verse and Comment

[John 6:44](#)

(44) No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.

New King James Version

One does not find the [true church](#) on his own any more than one can find Christ and the Father on His own. A person is led to [God](#) and to the church, and he is added to it upon [repentance](#), [baptism](#), giving himself wholly to God, and receiving the Holy Spirit. We see not only that God's true church cannot be found without revelation, but also that it cannot be joined. What this reality begins to reveal to us is [God's sovereignty](#) over His creation and His purpose. Therefore, as Jesus clearly states, He built and continues to build His church.

Seekers badly misunderstand, thinking salvation is open to anybody at any time. However, Paul puts a damper on this notion, writing in [Romans 9:16](#), "So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy."

Is it possible that people cannot find it partly because they do not know what to look for? Yes! This is true partly because of what God's church is. The Bible variously describes it as part of a Kingdom that issues citizenships ([Colossians 1:13](#); [Philippians 3:20](#)); a building of which its members are materials ([Ephesians 2:20-22](#)); as the body of [Jesus Christ](#) of which its members are vital, living parts ([Ephesians 1:22-23](#)); and as a Family into which God's children are summoned ([Ephesians 3:15](#)). There is no more important and exclusive institution on earth. No volunteers are accepted. Each person becomes a part of it by God's design and His design only. He is sovereign!

— John W. Ritenbaugh

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