

# Is the church of Christ a denomination?

**(Part 2)**

# What does it mean to be a denomination?

- It's not a biblical term.
- Definition of Denomination:
  - an act of denominating the *denomination* of prices in U.S. dollars
  - a value or size of a series of values or sizes metric *denominations*;
  - name, designation;
  - a religious organization whose congregations are united in their adherence to its beliefs and practices people from several different Christian *denominations*
  - <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/denomination>
- The Cambridge online Dictionary defined denomination as:
  - a religious group whose beliefs differ in some ways from other groups in the same religion.
  - <https://dictionary.cambridge.org/us/dictionary/english/denomination>

## Characteristics of a Denominational Church:

- 1. Denominations have a founder, other than Jesus.**
- 2. Denominations have an earthly head (conference or board).**
- 3. Denominations have a creed that has been established by its conference or board.**
- 4. Denominations have the name of its founder or practice.**
- 5. Denominations have an elaborate hierarchy (organization).**
- 6. Denominations have traditional creeds of worship.**
- 7. Denominations have a list of mandatory requirements for membership into the organization.**

Is the church of  
Christ a  
denomination?

- Its only founder and head is Jesus Christ.
  - Matthew 16:13 – 19
  - Ephesians 5:23 – 24
  - Colossians 1:18
  - 1 Corinthians 1:13

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- It owes its heritage to Christ alone.
  - Many names for the Lord's church:
    - The Way (Acts 9:2)
    - The body of Christ (I Corinthians 12:27)
    - The church of God (Acts 20:28)
    - The church of the Firstborn (Hebrews 12:23)
    - Many others
  - Romans 16:16
  - John 14:6
  - Acts 4:12
  - Philippians 2:9 – 11

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- The Word of God (The Holy Scriptures) is its only standard for faith and practice.
  - Matthew 7:21 – 23
  - Hebrews 4:12
  - 1 Timothy 4:12 – 16
  - 2 Timothy 2:15
  - 2 Timothy 3:16 – 17
  - John 12:48
  - Jude 1:3

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- The Word of God (The Holy Scriptures) is its only standard for faith and practice.
- Its congregations are autonomous and strives to be organized in accord with the Holy Scriptures.
  - Acts 14:23
  - Titus 1:5
  - Acts 20:28
  - Hebrews 13:17

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- It worships God as the Bible commands.
  - John 4:21 – 24
  - Matthew 18:20
  - Colossians 3:16 – 17
  - Severe warning given to those who would offer profane worship.
    - Leviticus 10:1 – 3
    - We're reminded of their punishment in Leviticus 16:1; Numbers 3:4; Numbers 26:61.



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- It worships God as the Bible commands.
- God adds those to its membership as they are being saved.
  - Acts 2:47
  - 1 Corinthians 3:6 – 7



Are you a member of the Lord's  
Church?