

God's Blueprint For His Church

- ❖ **We are led by shepherds.**
When Paul and Barnabas were establishing churches on their first missionary journey, they "appointed for them elders in every church" (Acts 14:23). These elders are also known as bishops and shepherds (1 Pet. 5; Acts 20).
- ❖ **We are autonomous.** This means we are not affiliated with any other churches. We are independent and self governing. We don't belong to any denomination or sect. The shepherds are only to "tend the flock of God which is among you" (1 Pet. 5:2).
- ❖ **We follow God's Word.** God's word is our blueprint. "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God...that the man of God may be **complete**, thoroughly equipped for **every** good work" (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Why change God's word if it's complete for every good work?
- ❖ **We proudly wear the name of Christ.** We are simply Christians trying to follow God's Word.



Come Join Us For Worship

SUNDAY:

AM Worship: 9:30 am

Bible Study: 5:00 pm

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Study: 6:30 pm



Marion Street Church of Christ

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What the Bible Says About...

God's Blueprint

**"You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."
~ 1 Peter 2:5**





How To Build An Ancient Castle

If you came across the blueprints for an old castle and had the money to build it, how would you do it?

- ❖ **You would need to find similar material.**
Building a castle out of aluminum siding will not look like an ancient castle.
- ❖ **You would need to use similar tools.** To give the castle the shape and texture of the original, you would have to use tools like the original builders used.
- ❖ **You would have to follow the blueprint.** If you added skylights, or a few more windows, your castle would not look like the blueprint.

*If you did these things, you would have a **castle** that looked just like the original.*



How To Build The Lord's Church

God has a plan and a way to build his church (Matthew 16:18)

- ❖ **You would need to find similar material that the Lord used.** Jesus told the apostles to go into all the world and preach the gospel (good news) – Mt. 28:19. The church is built upon the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
- ❖ **You would need to use similar tools that the Lord used.** When Philip went to Samaria, he preached Jesus (Acts 8:5). God's tools for building the church is preaching the Bible.
- ❖ **You would have to follow the blueprint that God left.** The apostle Paul said, "The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things; and the God of peace shall be with you" (Philippians 4:9). The blueprint we must follow is God's word, the Bible.

*If you did these things, you would have a **church** that looked just like the original.*

Marion Street Church of Christ is building...

- ❖ **A church after the Bible.** We are looking at the blueprint (the Bible) and we are trying to build what the Lord built. We do this first of all by honoring the Lord in our worship service. God is special and worthy of our praise.
- ❖ **Families after the Bible.** God can help build strong families. Moms, dads, and kids that love, respect and care for each other is what God wants in our families.
- ❖ **Pure lives after the Bible.** We are trying to be lights of the world that shine goodness and purity. God's concerned with what we do at home as well as with what we do in the church house.

