

## **Questions and Answers, Part 1: Church and Its Ministry**

*John MacArthur*

I. Introduction.

II. Is foot washing an ordinance that should be continued? (John 13:14-15)

A. The intention of the passage is not to teach that it is an ordinance. It is never repeated in the book of Acts.

B. The Lord is teaching us to meet others' needs. (John 15:34)

III. Types of the perfection of the saints must be distinguished so that perfectionism in this life is not taught and so that one can understand that his acceptance before God is already complete.

A. Ultimate perfection at the day of Jesus Christ.

B. Positional perfection when a person becomes a believer because he is in Christ.

C. Experiential perfection that one grows into as a Christian.

IV. Position on divorce.

A. God hates divorce.

B. God killed adulterers in the Old Testament leaving the other party to be freed. Only where God takes the life of an adulterer is the other party free to remarry.

V. What it means for a young man to be subject to elders? One of the basic principles in the Bible is submission to those who are under authority and who are spiritual examples. (1 Peter 5:5)

VI. What constitutes a church according to Matthew 18:20? This text has to do with confronting sin not dealing with the church.

VII. How does one balance doctrine and admonition (Acts 20:31)? The Spirit of God must be relied on for this.

VIII. If the Bible prohibits women from preaching, what are we to do with women prophetesses?

A. There are certain women that God uses for special purposes at special times in history.

B. We still have to deal with clear teaching and follow it unless God makes clear exceptions. (1 Timothy 2-3)

C. Women are called to teach children and women, however.

IX. Spending money is a matter of individual conscience when it is not done on something sinful.

X. Titus appointed elders, but there is a transition where this is no longer the case. (Titus 1:5)

XI. When dealing with false prophets, it is important to be persuasive and loving.

**Application Questions:**

1. Why is it important to understand the process in which God sanctifies a believer?

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2. Do you agree with MacArthur's views on divorce? Explain your position and use Scripture to defend it where possible.

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3. How should one respond to prohibitions on women teaching when there were women who lead in the Bible?

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