

## Ephesians 1:22-23 Under His Feet

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Proposition: we are not victims or losers when we are 'in the body of Christ.'

*Ephesians 1:22-23 New International Version (NIV)*

***<sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.***

2 Chronicles 14-16 Asa's story

What constitutes a church?

Ephesians 4: ***<sup>11</sup> So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup> until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.***

### FOR FURTHER STUDY IN SMALL GROUPS

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Mixer: describe a time/ event where you felt you were the winner.

1. What is there about Whangarei Central Baptist Church that you find helps you the most in your walk of faith?
2. Medical reasons aside, why is it a concern when Christians seem overwhelmed with the challenges of life?
3. What does it mean "all things are under His feet?"

4. What do we gain from Asa's story, a man who walked with God for years and then missed the mark and died early?
5. Explain Matthew 6:23 in your own words.
6. Is it possible to be a Christian and yet not connected to and functioning in the 'body of Christ?'
7. If two or three are gathered in His name and He is in the midst of them, at what point does a group of people go from a small group to a church?

Or put it another way, how would you define the word 'church?'

If you accept Pastor Russell's belief that a group of people is only a church when it is submitted to and influenced by the 5-fold ministries, then consider 'churches' that you know and ask if by this definition they are functioning as the body of Christ.

8. How does the 'fullness of Him fill the church' in every way?
9. Why is it so common for people to reject church and church membership today when in the beginning all people were counted in or expelled out of a local church (even being offered the right hand of fellowship if transferred between churches)?
10. Pray for us as a 'church' that the enemy would not be able to divide us through offence or distraction or overt attack; that God would build His church and the gates of hell would not be able to prevail against it.

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