

# Leading The Church Forward

## Leader Guide for the Week One

“Who Rules the Church”

Colossians 1:16-19, Ephesians 1:22-23

*Note: Please read the Scripture passages and watch the video on your own first and try to answer the questions. This will help you fine-tune things and draw good answers out of the group when you view it again with them.*

### Open with Prayer

### Lay out the format - video, discussion questions, and Question and Answer time

*Note: You could use the first question as an opener before the video and then fill in the blanks to Jonathan's definition afterward. People then can see how the answers compare.*

1. The pandemic helped us to stop confusing the “church” with the physical building. Give a one-sentence, biblical definition of the church.

Jonathan Leeman's Definition of a Church:

A local church is a group of **Christians** who regularly **gather** in Christ's name to officially affirm and oversee one another's **membership** in Jesus Christ and his kingdom through gospel **preaching** and gospel **ordinances**

2. What are some reasons you come to church? What are some things the church should do when they are gathered?
3. Pastor Paul warned us that we are not immune from drifting from Jesus. How can we prevent that from happening?

4. In the book of Revelation, Chapter 2, what criticism was leveled against the Church of Ephesus? What was the end result?
5. Both in Colossians and in Ephesians, the Bible uses the human body as an analogy for the church. What part of the body is Jesus? What part is the church? What impact does that have on us?

#### **Q&A -**

Note: This week's Q&A might have people touching on topics we will cover in later videos (pastors, elders, deacons, congregationalism). If that happens, feel free to acknowledge that it is a good question and write it down to cover during those weeks.

If the conversation is slow, feel free to ask the following questions:

Prescriptive/descriptive - When you read the Bible how do you determine which is which?

How important do you think the type of leadership is versus the character of the leaders?

**Close with Prayer (prayer requests if you have the time)**