



The Church

**Octopus
or Bicycle?**





Small churches

... in a big and unwelcoming world

- **the wisdom of God ... known to rulers and authorities in heavenly places ...**
- **... the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than we ask or imagine**

A people united

1 body, 1 Spirit, 1 hope,

1 Lord, 1 faith, 1 baptism,

1 God and Father

A people gifted

some apostles,

some prophets,

some evangelists,

some pastors and teachers

A people gifted

apostles are adventurous,

prophets are perceptive,

evangelists are expressive,

pastors are patient

and teachers talk

Some unbelief about Christ's gifts

Not concentrated narrowly

Not cherished equally

Not dispensable locally

Some purposes of Christ's gifts

TO equip God's holy people

for the work of serving others

and for building up the body ...

Stability through hanging on ...

... or stability through moving on?

Who (and how) in your church ..

explores new ways of outreach (apostolic),

responds to God in the world (prophetic),

commends the faith to others (evangelism),

supports people and their needs (pastoral),

deepens knowledge of Christ (teaching)?

