Colossians 1:15–21 (NLT)

A. Christ is supreme
   - highest in rank and authority
   - first and foremost
   - Lord; Master; Boss

B. Christ is the head of the Church (His body)

C. Church (Gk = EKKLESIA)
   - a calling out
   - an assembly (Christian community of members on earth or Saints in Heaven or both)

* The church is the body of Christ both in Heaven and earth

[3 concepts that convey Jesus and his mystical, marvelous, relationship with His church]

#1 The Body (His body)

#2 The Building (His temple or tabernacle)

#3 The Bride (Covenant love)

[My Testimony in regards to Pastoring]

1987–1990

• I was not in rebellion; but rather resistance
• I did not want to Pastor because of broken paradigms of the church
  Paradigm – an example serving as a model or pattern
  – a framework containing the basic assumptions, ways of thinking and methodology that are commonly accepted by members of a scientific (Christian) community
• 3 year paradigm shift

** I had to renew my mind to how God views the church NOT my personal experience
[TWO NEW PARADIGMS]

#1 You cannot separate Jesus (head) from His church (body)

Colossians 1:18 (NLT) “Christ is also the head of the Church, which is His body. He is the beginning, supreme over all who rise from the dead.”

Ephesians 1:18–23 (NLT)

verse 18 – you are His rich and glorious inheritance
verse 22 – …God made Him head over all things for the benefit of the church
verse 22 & 23 (AMP)
verse 20–23 (MSG)

#2 Life comes from the head

A. The human brain
   voluntary signals (involves our will and choice)
   involuntary signals (unintentional, unconscious)
   - heart beating
   - lungs and respiratory system
   - digestive systems
   “Brain Dead”

B. Jesus is the head of the church (LIFE)

involuntary signals – organic life
voluntary signals – involve our choice and faith obedience

Acts 17:28 (ref)
John 15:5 (ref)
Philippians 4:13 (ref)
Colossians 3:4 (ref)
II Corinthians 3:5 (ref)