

What is the difference between

...a Christian Church	and a Pseudo Christian Cult
Will stress the authority of Scripture (2 Tim 3:16, 17)	Will emphasize the authority of scripture added to, or subtracted from or interpreted by their leaders.
Is directed by men who lead with a strong but gentle example, giving instruction and encouragement. (2 Tim 2: 24, 25; 1 Peter 5: 1-3)	A cult leader dominates by the strength of his personality and his repeated emphasis as a spokesman for God.
Teaches and encourages godly relationships with those outside the church, society in general. (1 Cor 5: 9-11; 1 Peter 5: 1-3)	Often requires withdrawing from society except for earning money or making converts.
Will encourage love and respect for family members even though they are not Christians - and though they recognize that on the one hand differing beliefs may cause division, they will not promote division by their own attitude. (Matt 10: 34-37; Eph 5: 22 - 6:4)	Often insist on contempt for non-members, parents and relatives, regardless of what they think of Jesus. The cult will encourage separation.
Will act with integrity keeping none of their beliefs and identity from their contacts. (2 Cor 4: 2)	A cult operates by deception, keeping back some of some of their more unpleasant beliefs from contacts until they feel they are ready to accept them.
Accepts and recognizes all who confess the name of Jesus in faith and practice, regardless of denomination.	A cult only recognizes its own membership.
Will not use manipulative techniques, but believes in the ability of the Holy Spirit to work in peoples lives through the word of God. (1 Cor 2: 3-5; 2 Cor 2: 17)	A cult often uses behaviour modification similar to those used on prisoners of war. (Thought reform by strict control of information, environment and time.)
Encourages members to judge for themselves whether they are being led in a biblical way.	A cult discourages or even forbids any critical or analytical thinking.
Makes personal faith in Jesus Christ alone as the requirement for salvation. (Gal 3:1-7; Eph 2: 8-9.)	A cult almost always makes additional requirements for salvation. (Obedience to leaders & groups rules)
Teaches that giving is voluntary.	Cults often specify the giving requirements or demand that all property and or possessions be assigned to the group.
Requires leaders and members to maintain a high level of moral conduct and sexual purity.(1 Tim 3: 1-13, Titus 1: 5-9)	Often a double standard and leaders are above the law.
Will show respect to people and institutions that do not hold to its values.	A cult will encourage feelings of contempt for those with opposing views. Not just the beliefs but those who hold those beliefs as well.
Teaches biblical principles encouraging personal growth, thoughts, decisions and maturity. (2 Tim. 3: 16-17)	A cult creates a sense of dependence, which in turn allows leadership to make all the important decisions.
Is sometimes persecuted because it identifies with Jesus Christ and his word.	A cult is often persecuted for its actions towards those outside the group, or unethical or illegal behaviour.

