

TALK IT OVER

GROWING AND GOING: GROWING IN COMMUNITY

DIG DEEPER

Every Sunday, more than 120 million people attend a worship service in the United States. For perspective, more people attend church during one weekend, than they attend all professional sporting events in the United States, during an entire year! The question is why? What is it about attending church that makes people get up early on a Sunday, instead of staying home, or going out somewhere (*beach, restaurant, etc.*)?

Acts 2:41-42, 46 answers that question. We learn several things here. First, that the church is not a building or an institution, but a spiritual family to which I belong. Jesus did not come to die for a building, or an organization, but for the people. This passage summarizes the 5 purposes of every human being, that can only be realized when one not only attends, but belongs to a spiritual family (*worship, reach, disciple, serve and fellowship*).

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. When you read **Acts 2:41-46**, what difference is there between your life and what you read?
2. Do you think that because the world has changed so much, we are exempt from imitating the early church?
3. As a member of God's family, which of the 5 purposes do you need to strengthen?



"...the household of God. This is the church of the living God, which is the pillar and foundation of truth."

- 1 Timothy 3:15 (NLT)

There is a big difference between attending church and belonging to a church. If we use **Acts 2** as a foundation to define what the Church is, it would sound a little like this:

"A Church is a group of baptized believers, who have come together, committing themselves to helping each other, to fulfill the 5 purposes God has for their lives (worship, evangelism, discipleship, serving, fellowship).

One day we will stand before God and he will give us a final exam of 2 questions. First: What did you do with my son Jesus Christ? Second: What did you do with what I gave you? If you took that test today, what would you answer?

Class # 16

UPCOMING EVENTS

MOTHER'S DAY @ JTP
NEXT STEPS COURSE
MEN OF INFLUENCE EVENT

May 9 (10am & 12pm)
June 6 (9am via Zoom or Live)
June 23-25 (tentative)