

“And I also say to you that you are Peter,
and on this rock I will build My church, and the
gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.”

Matthew 16:18

What is Church?

What is Church?

Last time we looked at what made the early church different from what church looks like today, namely, the priesthood of all believers and how that spiritual reality played out in real time.

What is Church?

Last time we looked at what made the early church different from what church looks like today, namely, the priesthood of all believers and how that spiritual reality played out in real time.

And we also examined the relationship between the Persons of the Godhead, the Trinity, and how the church, as originally designed by Christ, was a visible manifestation of that relationship.

What is Church?

What is Church?

Today we are going to pause and look at what happens to an untrained and immature group of Spirit-filled believers who trust that Christ knows how to run His church better than we do and running it His way would probably be better than stumbling around in the dark trying to run it our way.

What is Church?

Today we are going to pause and look at what happens to an untrained and immature group of Spirit-filled believers who trust that Christ knows how to run His church better than we do and running it His way would probably be better than stumbling around in the dark trying to run it our way.

Whew, that's one long sentence.

What is Church?

Today we are going to pause and look at what happens to an untrained and immature group of Spirit-filled believers who trust that Christ knows how to run His church better than we do and running it His way would probably be better than stumbling around in the dark trying to run it our way.

Whew, that's one long sentence.

Let's see what happens when church is done His way.

Acts 2:40-41

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Note the message of Peter.

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Note the message of Peter.

He did not mince his words

Acts 2:40-41

And with many other words he (Peter) testified and exhorted them, saying,

“Be saved from this perverse generation.”

Then those who (what) gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them (the 120).

Note the message of Peter.

He did not mince his words. Today, his speech would be considered offensive and judgmental.

Acts 2:42-43

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) **continued steadfastly** in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) **continued steadfastly** **in the** (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers. Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Could it be the “then” was predicated on what happened before?

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers. Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Could it be the “then” was predicated on what happened before? Could it also be when the church “continued steadfastly” in the things of the Lord, it brought fear and a great movement of God?

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers.

Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers. Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

It is something to consider.

Acts 2:42-43

And they (at least 3,120) continued steadfastly in the (1) apostles' doctrine and (2) fellowship, in (3) the breaking of bread, and (4) in prayers. Then (what) fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

It is something to consider.

Also, what does a group of immature, untrained believers look like when they all have the fear of God in their lives?

Acts 2:44-45

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Note, the requirement was need, not want.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Note, the requirement was need, not want.

The early church was committed to something more than satisfying their earthly wants and desires, they lived to experience the Kingdom of God.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Acts 2:44-45

Now all who believed were together (at least 3,120),
and had all things in common, (to what extent)
and sold their possessions and goods,
and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

Remember one of the requirements of the disciples.

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

Then He said to them,

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:18-20

Forsaking All for Him

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

Then He said to them,

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:18-20

Forsaking All for Him

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

Then He said to them,

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:18-20

Forsaking All for Him

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

Then He said to them,

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:18-20

Forsaking All for Him

And Jesus, walking by the Sea of Galilee, saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen.

Then He said to them,

“Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

They immediately left their nets and followed Him.

Matthew 4:18-20

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Matthew 4:21-22

Forsaking All for Him

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. **He called them**, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.

Matthew 4:21-22

Forsaking All for Him

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. **He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father,** and followed Him.

Matthew 4:21-22

Forsaking All for Him

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. **He called them, and immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed Him.**

Matthew 4:21-22

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Forsaking All for Him

After these things He went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax office.

And He said to him, "Follow Me."

So he left all, rose up, and followed Him.

Luke 5:27-28

Notice the words of Jesus regarding the cost of true discipleship.

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him
(1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily,
and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him (1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily, and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him
(1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily,
and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him
(1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily,
and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him
(1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily,
and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him
(1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily,
and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

“So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.”

Luke 14:33

Then He said to them all,

“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him
(1) deny himself, and (2) take up his cross daily,
and (3) follow Me.”

Luke 9:23

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “**If you want to be perfect**, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “**If you want to be perfect**, (then) **go**, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Then Peter answered and said to Him,
“See, we have left all and followed You.
Therefore what shall we have?”

Matthew 19:27

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?”

Matthew 19:27

Forsaking All for Him

Jesus said to him, “If you want to be perfect, (then) go, sell what you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

Matthew 19:21

Then Peter answered and said to Him,
“See, we have left all and followed You.
Therefore what shall we have?”

Matthew 19:27

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“**And everyone who has left houses** or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“**And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters** or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

And what was Peter talking about when he said,
“we have left all and followed you”?

“And everyone who has left houses or brothers
or sisters or father or mother or wife or children
or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a
hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

Matthew 19:29

Forsaking All for Him

Forsaking All for Him

And again, what does it look like when a group of believers who know little to nothing about the things of God, totally surrender their lives to Him as Lord and live daily to please Him in all things?

Forsaking All for Him

And again, what does it look like when a group of believers who know little to nothing about the things of God, totally surrender their lives to Him as Lord and live daily to please Him in all things?

What does God do through a people like that?

Acts 2:46-47

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) **daily** (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) **daily** (how) **with one accord in the temple**, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

And what did God do?

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

And what did God do?

And the Lord added to the church (when) daily (what) those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

And what did God do?

And the Lord added to the church (when) daily (what) those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

And what did God do?

And the Lord added to the church (when) daily (what) those who were being saved.

Acts 2:46-47

So continuing (when) daily (how) with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread (where) from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (described as) praising God and having favor with all (saved and lost) the people.

And what did God do?

And the Lord added to the church (when) daily (what) those who were being saved.

When Things Go South

When Things Go South

This is when things were going good.

When Things Go South

This is when things were going good.
What happened to these people when
things started going south?

When Things Go South

This is when things were going good.

What happened to these people when things started going south?

Did they abandon the “all for one, one for all” attitude and begin looking out for themselves?

When Things Go South

This is when things were going good.

What happened to these people when things started going south?

Did they abandon the “all for one, one for all” attitude and begin looking out for themselves?

Did they leave because the cost was too high?

When Things Go South

This is when things were going good.

What happened to these people when things started going south?

Did they abandon the “all for one, one for all” attitude and begin looking out for themselves?

Did they leave because the cost was too high?

Did they tone it down or hide their light under a basket?

When Things Go South

This is when things were going good.

What happened to these people when things started going south?

Did they abandon the “all for one, one for all” attitude and begin looking out for themselves?

Did they leave because the cost was too high?

Did they tone it down or hide their light under a basket?

Or did they double-down on their fear of the Lord?

Acts 4:23-37

Acts 4:23-37

Their prayer for boldness.

Acts 4:23-37

Their prayer for boldness.

God's response.

Acts 4:23-37

Their prayer for boldness.

God's response.

Second verse, same as the first.

What is Church?

What is Church?

Notice where the church met.

What is Church?

Notice where the church met.

Never a mention of a neutral building.

What is Church?

Notice where the church met.

Never a mention of a neutral building.

Did you ever wonder why?

What is Church?

Notice where the church met.

Never a mention of a neutral building.

Did you ever wonder why?

Remember, these believers lived in a hostile land and were daily facing persecution, even unto death.

What is Church?

Notice where the church met.

Never a mention of a neutral building.

Did you ever wonder why?

Remember, these believers lived in a hostile land and were daily facing persecution, even unto death.

What can we learn from them?

The Church Met in Houses

The Church Met in Houses

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple,
and breaking bread from house to house, they ate
their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.

Acts 2:46

The Church Met in Houses

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple,
and breaking bread **from house to house**, they ate
their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.

Acts 2:46

The Church Met in Houses

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple,
and breaking bread **from house to house**, they ate
their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.

Acts 2:46

And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did
not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Acts 5:42

The Church Met in Houses

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple,
and breaking bread **from house to house**, they ate
their food with gladness and simplicity of heart.

Acts 2:46

And daily in the temple, and **in every house**, they did
not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Acts 5:42

The Church Met in Houses

The Church Met in Houses

Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

Likewise greet the church that is in their house.

Romans 16:3-5a

The Church Met in Houses

Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

Likewise **greet the church that is in their house.**

Romans 16:3-5a

The Church Met in Houses

The Church Met in Houses

Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas and the church that is in his house.

Colossians 4:15

The Church Met in Houses

Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas **and the church that is in his house.**

Colossians 4:15

The Church Met in Houses

Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas **and the church that is in his house.**

Colossians 4:15

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our beloved friend and fellow laborer, to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house.

Philemon 1:2

The Church Met in Houses

Greet the brethren who are in Laodicea, and Nymphas **and the church that is in his house.**

Colossians 4:15

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, to Philemon our beloved friend and fellow laborer, to the beloved Apphia, Archippus our fellow soldier, **and to the church in your house.**

Philemon 1:2

What is Church?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What are your plans (resolutions) for the coming year,
both spiritually and for your family?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What are your plans (resolutions) for the coming year,
both spiritually and for your family?

How does church fit into those plans?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What are your plans (resolutions) for the coming year,
both spiritually and for your family?

How does church fit into those plans?

How can our church become persecution protected?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What are your plans (resolutions) for the coming year,
both spiritually and for your family?

How does church fit into those plans?

How can our church become persecution protected?

How entrenched are you in how you view church?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What are your plans (resolutions) for the coming year, both spiritually and for your family?

How does church fit into those plans?

How can our church become persecution protected?

How entrenched are you in how you view church?

Are you a participant or an observer?

What is Church?

Today is the first day of 2023.

What do you see happening in the near future?

What are your plans (resolutions) for the coming year,
both spiritually and for your family?

How does church fit into those plans?

How can our church become persecution protected?

How entrenched are you in how you view church?

Are you a participant or an observer?

And how open are you for change?