



Discussion Guide
Church — Part 5
PARTICIPANT GUIDE

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You were made for more than a comfortable, self-focused faith. You were made to be part of something bigger. In this series, we're rediscovering what the church was always meant to be: not a program to consume, but a Spirit-filled, Jesus-shaped community that's alive, vital, and still changing the world. We'll look at the stories competing for our hearts, and rediscover the one true story we were made for!

NEED A RESOURCE, HAVE A QUESTION, OR WANT TO HAVE A CONVERSATION?
Let us know how we can help! Contact your groups director or discipleship@rockbridge.cc

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"The church is not a museum for pristine saints, but a hospital ward for broken sinners."
[Timothy Keller]

ENGAGE & CONNECT ||

If church met at your house every week, where would you host people? How many could fit?

BEGIN WITH PRAYER ||

Jesus, make us the bride who will be united to You forever. How do You want us to do things?

MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE ||

And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
[Hebrews 10:24-5, ESV]

BIG IDEA ||

The Jesus Church is the fulfillment of God's family plan.

PASSAGE & DISCUSSION || Acts 2:42-47

1. What part of this description strikes you the most?
2. How is this description different from church the way you are used to? What elements are the same across time and culture?
3. If you could write a description of church now, like Luke did here, what would it say?
4. What brings you to awe?

5. How does the early church eat differently because of God's Spirit within them?
6. We see in this passage that the church was growing in worship toward God and, at the same time, in favor toward the people around them. How is that balance doing in our group?
7. Matt described the results of the Spirit in the early church as "spiritual sunshine" that had several expressions (Awe/authority, moral enthusiasm, the inexplicable, care, generosity, power to overcome, thankfulness, and helpfulness.) What are some ways that we see spiritual sunshine in our group?
8. Is there a way the Spirit is leading us together to become more like Jesus?
9. What do we need to devote ourselves to?

STEP OF OBEDIENCE ||

As you consider your next step, reflect on: 1) How can you devote yourself to the things that matter most? 2) Pray for the Spirit to come and make changes as He sees fit.

PRAYER FOCUS ||

"Holy Spirit, we want You to be among us, ungrieved by what You encounter here. But, for that to happen, we first need You to be among us and show us Your grief. Remake us. Remold us. Heal and cleanse and awaken Your church, so that we will be filled with Your joy and light and dwell with You again. Amen."