

## What Does the Bible Say About... THE CHURCH WEEK 6

### Starter Question

When you hear the word church, is your initial response good or bad? What are some of the first images, thoughts, or memories that come to mind?

### **READ MATTHEW 16:13-18; ACTS 1:6-8; 2:42-47**

#### MAIN IDEA:

*The Church at its inception was people united around a conviction.*

#### **1. The church is not a building on 28th Street but a movement on mission. (Acts 1:6-8, Ephesians 2:17)**

- a) Their hearts and minds were captivated by the message.
- b) Their words and actions were in agreement.
- c) Their boldness and courage were compelling.

#### **2. The church is not an event to attend but a family to love.**

- Acts 2:42-47

#### **3. The Church chooses generosity over hoarding.**

- Generosity has less to do with what you give and more to do with what you treasure.

#### **4. The Church chooses connection over isolation**

#### **5. The church Chooses ministry over consumption**

- *"The Christian needs another Christian who speaks God's Word to him. He needs him again and again when he becomes uncertain and discouraged, for by himself he cannot help himself without belying the truth." - Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

### Further Discussion

1. Thinking about the message this past Sunday, what was the most exciting thing you learned? What do you have more questions about?
2. What is the difference between the global church and the local church? What is the value and the importance of each?
3. Why do you think so many people today are turned off to the idea of local churches?
4. Why do you think we so often lose sight of Jesus as the uniting conviction for the church? How can we fight against that mindset?
5. Why is it so important for followers of Christ to be in community in a local church? How can we grow as a community/family now?

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