



- Never has a bigger assignment been given to a less **qualified** group of people.

Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone. Mark 16:15 (NLT)

- God never **asks** of us what He doesn't also **provide** for us.

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere... Acts 1:8 (NLT)

- When God asks us to participate in His mission, it's an invitation to **trust** Him.

- The Holy Spirit in you is God's **resource** for you..

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper to be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it does not see him or know him. But you know him, because he lives with you and he will be in you. John 14:16-17 (NCV)

#### What we see in ACTS:

- God is constantly adding people to His **church**.

...And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved. Acts 2:47 (NLT)

- God always draws believers to **community** not **isolation**.

Those who embraced his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to the believers that day. Acts 2:41

Then the church throughout Judea, Galilee, and Samaria experienced a time of peace. It grew in strength and numbers, living in the fear of the Lord and the encouragement of the Holy Spirit. Acts 9:31

For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20

If someone says, "I love God," but hates a fellow believer, that person is a liar; for if we don't love people we can see, how can we love God, whom we cannot see? And he has given us this command: Those who love God must also love their fellow believers. 1 John 4:20-21 (NLT)

#### Three primary purposes of the Church:

- It provides worship to **God**.

Ephesian 1:12 (GWT), 1 Peter 2:9 (GWT), Psalm 135:1-3

- It provides a witness to the **World**.

Matthew 28:19-20 (NIV)

- It provides ministry to **believers**.

Ephesians 4:11-13,16 (NLT)

The church is **believers** who gather together, not the **building** we gather together in.

Being adopted into the family of God changes our **identity** as a child of God.

We need the Community and fellowship that come from belonging to the **local church**.

Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near. Hebrews 10:25 (TLB)

This is not the time to pull away and neglect meeting together, as some have formed the habit of doing. In fact, we should come together even more frequently, eager to encourage and urge each other onward as we anticipate that day dawning. Hebrews 10:25 (TPT)

- We want to be in the family of God without a **commitment** to the family of God.

They committed themselves to the teaching of the apostles, the life together, the common meal, and the prayers. Acts 2:42 (MSG)

Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. 1 Corinthians 12:20-22 (NLT)

- When we commit ourselves to a church we discover how much we are **needed**.

...Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others. Romans 12:5 (NLT)

- Use your **spiritual gifts** to bless your church.

#### Definition of a spiritual gift:

A Spiritual Gift is a special divine empowerment given to each believer by the Holy Spirit to accomplish a given ministry God's way according to His grace to be used in the context of the Body of Christ.

1 Corinthians 12:7-11 (NLT)

A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other. 1 Corinthians 12:7 (NLT)

1 Peter 4:10-11 (NLT)

#### How do you discover your spiritual gifts?

- Study what the **Bible** says about spiritual gifts.

Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28-30; Ephesians 4:11; and 1 Peter 4:9-11

- Ask God to **show you** your spiritual gift.

- Take a spiritual gift **test**.

<http://buildingchurch.net/g2s.htm>

[www.giftstest.com](http://www.giftstest.com)

- **Pray** for people in the church..



## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

#### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain why?
- As you look at the believers in ACTS what stands out about them? What is one thing you think today's church could do better?
- As a believer in the church, how well do you carry out the purposes of the church? What area could you improve in?
- Why do you think people want to be in the family of God without a commitment to the family of God?
- Why do we discover how much we are needed in the church when we commit ourselves to the church? Do you know that you are needed at the Quest?
- Read the Scriptures under the point - "Study what the Bible says about spiritual gifts". Why are these gifts important to the church?
- Have you taken a spiritual gifts test? What are your gifts? Are you using your gifts the Quest?

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Today's Talk..



MY PLACE IN THE CHURCH