

The Church

Video Presented by Charles Maynard

“Where two or three gather together as my followers, I am there among them.”

Matthew 18:20 (NLT)

“The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ.” **I Corinthians 12:12 (NLT)**

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.” **Acts 2:42-47**

GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Before watching the video, how would you describe “the church”?
2. In the video, Charles stated, “The church isn’t something we created. It’s what God has fashioned for us.” What does this statement mean to you, and is this different from how you described the church?

3. Christianity is not a solitary happening. It is important to have others to support and encourage you. How have you been encouraged by someone or been an encouragement to others? Share your experience.

4. When we join the church, we are making promises to God and to each other that we will support the congregation with our prayers, presence, gifts (including tithes), service, and our witness. How have you experienced this support, or supported others in these ways?

5. Prayers, presence, gifts (including tithes), service, and our witness: which one of these is most difficult to practice? Which one is easiest? Why?

6. Why is it important for people taking the next step of joining the church to do so in front of the congregation?

7. What step can you take this week to “be the Church”?