

What's So Good About the Church?

Acts 2:41-47

Friend Day

October 2, 2016

"Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), and to prayer. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity—all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved." (Acts 2:41-47 NLT)

Looking at the example of this very first group of Christians reveals five reasons why the church exists and why you should be a part of it:

1. The first thing that church brings into our lives is _____.

"All the believers devoted themselves... to fellowship, and to sharing in meals...and all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had." --Acts 2:42

2. Church gives us an opportunity to _____ the God who made us.

"They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity, all the while praising God," --Acts 2:46-47 NLT

3. Church helps lead us to spiritual _____.

"All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to prayer." --Acts 2:42 NLT

The Holy Spirit uses a variety of methods to lead us into Christ-likeness:

- a. He often uses the _____ of life—trials and tragedies—to shape our character.
- b. He uses _____.
- c. He also uses other _____ fellowshiping with people who are more spiritually mature than we are helps us to grow.

d. He definitely uses _____—the more time you spend talking with God, the more you start to sound like him yourself.

e. The tool he uses more than any other is God's _____.

4. Going to church prepares you for _____.

"A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders ... They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need." --Acts 2:43-45 NLT

5. Being a part of the church helps you to understand and carry out your life's _____.

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