

A Movement is Shaped

Acts 2:41-47

Outline

Introduction: In this series I have challenged you to rethink your basic understanding of the Christian faith by looking at five events that reshaped humanity forever: The post-Resurrection appearances of Christ; the Great Commission; the Ascension; the arrival of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost; and today, the birth of a movement called the Church.

The birth of the Church at Pentecost. Acts 2

What is the Church? - a movement or an institution?

1. The church is an **invisible kingdom**.
2. The church is a **divine mission**.
3. The church is a **living organism**.
4. The church is the steady, never changing **light of truth**.
5. It is the **redeemed people** of God.
6. The church is a **multi-generational family**.
7. The church includes **all peoples**.
8. The church is the conscience of the state and the **moral compass of society**.
9. The church is a **praying ministry**.
10. The church is a **caring community**.

10 biblical descriptions of the Church

- The flock of God - **1 Peter 5:2-4**
- The household of God - **1 Timothy 3:15**
- The kingdom of God - **Philippians 3:20**
- The body of Christ - **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**
- The bride of Christ - **Ephesians 5:22-32**
- The support and pillar of the Truth - **1 Timothy 3:15**
- A chosen people - **1 Peter 2:9**
- A royal priesthood – **1 Peter 2:9**

- A holy nation - **1 Peter 2:9**
- A holy temple - **Ephesians 2:21-22**

The primary ministries of the Church - Acts 2:42-47

1. **The Church's four foundational priorities - they devoted themselves to...**
 - Apostolic teaching
 - Community – **fellowship**: Koinonia
 - Worship - **breaking of bread**
 - Prayer - **and to prayer**
2. **The practical manifestations - vss. 43-47**
 - Miracles
 - Compassion
 - Decentralization
 - Celebration
 - Favorable reputation
3. **The purposeful mission of the church - vs. 47, And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.**

Conclusion: In what ways has the church impacted mankind since Pentecost?