In This Together: Conclusion

Why Church?

Acts 2:42-47 Pastor Chris Lenhart - 8/11/24



Opening Thought Question:

Why the Church?

Takeaways from the 7 Churches in Revelation....

What was affirmed?	What was rebuked?	

Further Study
Ephesians
Rev. 1-3
Matt. 28:16-20
Matt. 22:36-40

Patterns and Practices that sanctify (set apart) the church for God's good and eternal purposes...

1. A 2. F 2. F 2. A 4. S 4. G

2 Pet. 1:20-21 2 Tim. 3:16-17 Heb. 4:12-13 Heb. 10:25 Eph. 5:19-21 1 Cor. 11:17-34 Matt. 6:5-15 2 Cor. 9:6-7 Pr. 22:9 Ps. 112:5 1 Cor. 3:6-8

Why the Church?

God uses faithful churches to show and tell a not-yet-believing world at least 3 beautiful, hopeful, and life-transforming truths...

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Next Week: James-A Faith that Works: Joyful (1:1-11)

Jn. 11:25 Acts 4:12 1 Cor. 8:6; 12:3 1 Pet. 3:15

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	In This Together: Conclusion	
Why Church?		Acts 2:42-47
Next Steps: Home-Group Study and/or Personal Discipleship Guide		
Get together as a family or with a friend or group of friends this week!		Further Study Ephesians Rev. 1-3
Start with <u>Prayer</u> -ask Jesus to guide our time together. Go over prayer		Matt. 28:16-20
requests together.		Matt. 22:36-40 2 Pet. 1:20-21
Read	<u>the Text</u> - Acts 2:42-47	2 Tim. 3:16-17 Heb. 4:12-13 Heb. 10:25
Ques	tions for Reflection & Discussion:	Eph. 5:19-21 1 Cor. 11:17-34
1.	What challenges or obstacles did the early Church face, that Christian congregations today do not have to overcome? What challenges present in the earliest churches still exist in congregations today?	Matt. 6:5-15 2 Cor. 9:6-7 Pr. 22:9 Ps. 112:5 1 Cor. 3:6-8
2.	Observing verses 42-47 compile a list of the practices of the early Church. Take time to discuss how each practice demonstrated a dependence on God, and how each practice was counter cultural.	Jn. 11:25 Acts 4:12 1 Cor. 8:6; 12:3 1 Pet. 3:15
3.	What does it look like for believers to hold all things in common? (See verses 45-47a for answers.)	<u>Prayer Requests</u>
4.	Who brought the increase in the early Church? Why is this important for the Church today to remember?	Family
5.	Which of these patterns are you most drawn to, and why? How has God used your regular practice of this pattern to strengthen and encourage your walk with him?	Church
Questions guiding Spiritual Formation & Application:		
1.	How does this text invite us to grow in a greater love for God? What lessons within this text move us towards growing in our love for one another?	Community
	What principles could be applied to our family life, careers, communities, or congregational life?	Career/Friends
	Consider how Jesus could use our application of the principles in this text to draw those that do not know him, unto himself?	
5.	Who is currently in our lives that needs an invitation to meet Jesus or be part of a kind and gracious Christian community?	Other