

Acts 2 “The Church – Why We Do What We Do”  
January 30-31, 2010 Message # MB406

- If CCM or our other campuses disappeared today, would it affect our community – would the community miss us?
- 66% of Americans agree – churches have little or no value in helping them find meaning and direction in their lives
- Church – a living organism, a body of Christ followers who carry out the purposes of God on the earth

*(Matthew 16:18) And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.*

- Jesus founded HIS church, designed HIS church, and directs HIS church

*(John 20:19-22) On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.*

- Jesus, while on earth, was a picture of the church in action
- The church is simply Christ followers who are continuing the ministry of Jesus

*(Acts 1:4-5) On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.”*

*(Acts 1:8) But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

- 1<sup>st</sup> command – be filled (lifestyle) with the Holy Spirit

*(Matthew 28:19-20) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”*

- 2<sup>nd</sup> command – be a disciple and then make disciples

Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT) And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to live in obedience to him. Let your roots grow down into him and draw up nourishment from him, so you will grow in faith, strong and vigorous.

- The church (each Christ follower) is to gather (inward growth) and scatter (outward ministry)
- Gather (inward growth)
- Scatter (outward ministry)



*(Acts 2:1-4) When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*



*(Acts 2:5-8) Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: “Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language?”*

*(Acts 2:36-37) “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”*

*(1 Peter 3:15, NLT) Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if you are asked about your Christian hope, always be ready to explain it.*

*(Acts 2:38) Peter replied, “Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

**Mark 1:14-15 ...Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"**

- **Repent – a change of mind that brings a change in lifestyle**
- **Good news = anyone can repent, believe, be forgiven, and get a new start**

*(Acts 2:39-40) The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call.” With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.”*

**Acts 2:41 (NKJV) Then those who **gladly** received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.**

*All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation. NKJV = New King James Version.*