

Why Church? | Part 1 - Why Do We Need The Church?

Message Big Idea

God created the church as a community of people committed to living out their allegiance to Jesus by gathering to worship him, sharing life with one another, and carrying out his mission in this world.

Scripture

Matthew 16:13-20, Acts 2:42-47

Points to Keep In Mind

1. The following quote by Ed Siloso reveals how radical Jesus's vision of the Church was in his time. For many people, the "Temple and the synagogue were static institutions that functioned in buildings that members had to go to on specified occasions, whereas the Ekklēsia was a building-less mobile people movement designed to operate 24/7 in the marketplace for the purpose of having an impact on everybody and everything." -Ed Siloso, "Ekklesia"
2. Jesus' vision for the Church was for it to be a people movement bringing love to every living room, office building, community center, school...and every nook and cranny of society! We can be the church and do the work of Jesus no matter where we live, work, or play.

COMMUNITY'S Four Expressions

- At COMMUNITY, we are one church with four expressions. Our COMMUNITY Locations are facilities where the church meets. They house a community of people on mission together where Jesus is King.
- We also have 30 MicroChurches that include 800 people around the world! In total, our MicroChurches would make up our third largest location. Some are meeting here in Chicagoland, and others are meeting as far away as India. Only two of them meet in our locations, but they are still a church.
- Every week, a hundreds of people join us live through Community Online. Many of these people are engaged in small groups, or on a team, or are serving somewhere locally. They are also an expression of our church if they are a community of people on mission together, where Jesus is King.
- Community Freedom is another expression of our church. They gather in prison facilities. They are a church because they are a community of people on mission together where Jesus is King.

Additional Questions and Resources

1. Where do you see God at work in your life right now?
2. What next steps do you feel called to take in your faith journey?
3. Have you considered getting baptized? communitychristian.org/baptism/
4. What have you been learning from the Community Daily? communitychristian.org/daily
5. If someone is seeking professional counseling, you can always refer them to our resource page: communitychristian.org/mentalhealth/
6. Find out more about YOU+ by visiting: communitychristian.org/you/