

“What Happens When A Church Is Connected”

I was attached...

At the very heart of God’s Master Design for the Church is connected community.

Church is much more than just a crowd meeting once a week for corporate worship!

- All the pictures God gives us of His Church reflect an inter-related, interdependent, interactive community...
 - God’s Citizens. Eph. 2:19; Hebrews 11:13-16
 - God’s Family. Ephesians 2:19
 - God’s Building. Eph. 2:20-22; I Peter 2:4-5
 - Christ’s Bride. Ephesians 5:25; II Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:7
 - Christ’s Body. Ephesians 1:20-23
- God’s design includes two kinds of gatherings...
 - The large corporate gathering, meant for worship. Acts 2:46a; 3:1; 5:42
 - > The early N.T. church met in the Temple and Synagogues.
 - > The primary reason was for instruction and prayer, acts of worship.
 - The small house meeting, meant for fellowship. Acts 2:46; 5:42
 - > All believers become “partners” with Jesus and other believers. I John 1:3
 - > In all that occurred in the house meetings, there was a common partnership in the Christian life, they were “*doing life together*”!

For the first 300 years of Church history, there were no “church” buildings, the Church met in homes.

During that time, the Church experienced some phenomenal results...

- Mutual *commitment* to the things that are a part of being a believer. Acts 2:42
- Great *generosity* that met all the needs. Acts 2:44-45; 5:34-35
- Ongoing *unity*. Acts 2:46; 5:32
- *Boldness* to share the Gospel in the face of adversity. Acts 4:18, 23,31
- Genuine heart *praise* to God. Acts 2:46-47a
- *Favor* with all the people. Acts 2:47
- Amazing *growth* through people being saved. Acts 2:47; 4:4; 5:14; 6:1, 7; 9:31

Three connection questions...

- Have you trusted Jesus to become part of the forever family of God?
- Have you committed yourself to local church membership?
- Have you committed to a Life Group?

