



### *Acts 2:41-47*

Those who accepted the message were baptized, and about 3,000 were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

The Imperfect Church

Financial Duplicity <sup>Acts 5</sup>

The Imperfect Church

Financial Duplicity <sup>Acts 5</sup>

<sup>Acts 6</sup> Racial Discrimination

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<sup>Acts 6</sup> Racial Discrimination

<sup>Acts 9</sup> Spiritual Exclusivity

## The Imperfect Church

Financial Duplicity <sup>Acts 5</sup>

Racial Discrimination <sup>Acts 6</sup>

Spiritual Exclusivity <sup>Acts 9</sup>

Religious Legalism <sup>Acts 11</sup>

## GETTING CHURCH RIGHT

1

*They eagerly  
embraced spiritual  
obligations.*

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

- Verse 42

## GETTING CHURCH RIGHT

2

*They pragmatically  
applied spiritual  
experience.*

"...Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need..."

- Verses 43-46

## GETTING CHURCH RIGHT

3

*They unapologetically  
exerted spiritual  
influence.*

"...enjoying the favor of all the people.  
And the Lord added to their number daily  
those who were being saved...."

- Verses 46-47

A group of believers properly devoted to spiritual practices will make spirituality practical, and practical spirituality can't help but spiritually impact it's city.

"They devoted themselves"  
VERSE 42

A periphrastic participial phrase:  
**Continuous action**

"They were continually devoting themselves... (NASB)

## *Deliberately Persevering*

They were continually living out the word, living in fellowship, living for communion, and living by prayer.

The *Exalted Christ* now reveals himself to the world through the Church existing as community.

## *The Local Church*

is the only hope of a lost world because it is the most compelling expression of Jesus in the world today!



“Through you God has chosen to make known to the world the glorious riches of the mystery of salvation, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

COLOSSIANS 1:27

“When we say, ‘I love Jesus, but I hate the Church,’ we end up losing not only the Church, but Jesus too.”

HENRI NOUWEN

“I tell you that ... I will build my church, and the gates of Hell won't overcome it. I will give you, church, the keys to God's kingdom; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

MATTHEW 16:18-19

The local church  
is God's "Plan A"  
for the world.

There is no "Plan B"!

CONTINUALLY DEVOTING  
YOURSELF TO THE FELLOWSHIP

*Serve it!*

"Don't use your freedom to drift into  
self-centered living, rather, serve one  
another humbly in love."

Galatians 5:13

CONTINUALLY DEVOTING  
YOURSELF TO THE FELLOWSHIP

*Shield it!*

"Let us concentrate on the things  
which make for harmony, and on  
the growth of our fellowship."

Romans 14:19

CONTINUALLY DEVOTING  
YOURSELF TO THE FELLOWSHIP

*Support it!*

"Now you are the body of Christ, and  
each one of you is a part of it."

I Corinthians 12:27

The chalkboard is covered in various physics equations and diagrams. At the top left, there are equations for magnetic field components:  $B_x = \beta_x + \mu_0 M_x = \beta_x (1 + \mu_0 \chi_m)$  and  $B = \mu_0 (H + M) = \mu_0 (1 + \chi_m) H$ . Below this is a diagram of a rectangular loop with current  $I$  in a magnetic field  $B$ . To the right, there's a diagram of a circuit with a battery  $U_E$ , a resistor  $R$ , and a capacitor  $C$ . Further right is a diagram of a parallel plate capacitor with area  $A$  and separation  $d$ , showing electric field  $E$  and potential difference  $U_A$ . At the top center, there's a sine wave graph with amplitude  $A$  and period  $T$ . Below the graph are equations for induced EMF:  $U_{A1} = -\dot{\Phi}_1 = -\dot{B} \cdot A$ ,  $U_{A2} = -\dot{\Phi}_2 = -\dot{B} \cdot A$ , and  $U_{A1} = U_{A2} = U_A$ . To the right of the graph is a diagram of a magnetic core with permeability  $\mu$  and length  $l$ , with current  $I$  and magnetic field  $B$ . Below the graph are equations for magnetic field in a core:  $B = \mu_0 \mu H$ ,  $H = \frac{I}{l}$ , and  $B = \frac{\mu_0 \mu I}{l}$ . At the bottom left, there's a diagram of a particle with charge  $q$  moving in a magnetic field  $B$  with velocity  $v$ . Below it are equations for the Lorentz force:  $F = q(v \times B)$  and  $\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = q(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$ . At the bottom center, the equation  $E = mc^2$  is written in large letters. Below it, the text "energy = me community" is written, with a yellow lightning bolt symbol between "me" and "community". To the right of the equation, there's a diagram of a particle with mass  $m$  and velocity  $v$ , showing its path in a magnetic field. Below the diagram are equations for the relativistic energy-momentum relation:  $E^2 = (pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2$  and  $E = \gamma mc^2$ , where  $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$ . At the bottom right, there's a diagram of a particle with mass  $m$  and velocity  $v$ , showing its path in a magnetic field. Below the diagram are equations for the relativistic energy-momentum relation:  $E^2 = (pc)^2 + (mc^2)^2$  and  $E = \gamma mc^2$ , where  $\gamma = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - \frac{v^2}{c^2}}}$ .

PART 3  
*Why Church?*