

The CHURCH

...God's Master Project



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Matthew 16:18-19

What was Jesus' original purpose
and description of His church?



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Jesus and His Church

Greek word ***“ecclesia”*** means
*“the gathering together of the
called-out ones (the CHURCH)”*.

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The local church is the hope of the world.

*Local churches need to become
the redemptive centres that Jesus
intended them to be.*

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God's Master Project

“The Church is a community of Christ-followers empowered by the Holy Spirit to participate in God’s mission to the world.”



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Jesus' Church is a Community

When God created us He created us to live life in community. When Jesus came to earth He lived out this value of community. He didn't do life in isolation.



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Acts 2:42-47

In the first century, there was no such thing as being a Christian without being part of a community of other Christ-followers.



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Church is **NOT** a *building* that we visit from time to time or even an *event* or a *meeting* that we go to. It is a family; a community that God wants you and I to be a vital *part of*.



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Jesus' Church is a Community of Christ Followers



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The goal of every true disciple is to be like their Master so the goal of every Christian is to be like Jesus. Our very calling and destiny is to be conformed to the image or likeness of Christ.



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**Jesus' Church is a
Community of Christ
Followers Empowered
by the Spirit**

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One of the most important keys to Jesus' life and ministry was the fact that His entire ministry was empowered by the Spirit. (**Mark 1:10; Luke 4:1, 14, 18-21**)



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The infilling of the Spirit is extended to His followers too. Jesus clearly declared that the power of the Spirit was a crucial requirement for their lives.

(Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5)



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Prayer is a key link to receiving and releasing the Spirit's power in our lives.
(Acts 1:14; 4:31)



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**Jesus' Church is a Community
of Christ Followers Empowered
by the Spirit to Participate in
God's Mission in the World.**



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Right now God is reaching out to this world. Mission begins and ends with Him and His heart for people. When we engage in mission, we simply participate in what God is already doing in our world.



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So what does this mean to us?

If Jesus is still building His Church, then together as a community of Christ followers we need to refocus the use of our time, energy and resources on helping Him achieve His purpose.

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Corporately we can do this together by outworking our Vision and Mission statements as they both reflect God's master project...



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Our Vision

“To be a God honouring Christian community, who passionately obey the Great Commandment and the Great Commission.”



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Our Mission

*“We connect people to Jesus Christ,
developing them into Christ-like maturity
and empowering them to a meaningful
life of service in the church,
community and world.”*

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