

Invisible God
Week 3 : Church

Sermon Big Idea: After the resurrection, the church began with the mission to reveal Jesus and transform the whole world.

- Grand Valley's Mission is to *lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.*
- Grand Valley's Vision is to *be a community that connects unchurched people to Jesus.*
- **Is our passion big enough to do whatever it takes to achieve God's mission?**

Scripture Passages

- **Matthew 16:15-18** - Jesus declares that Peter will be the rock upon whom the church will be built. (First appearance of the church in scripture)
- **Acts 1:4-5** - Jesus tells the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit
- **Acts 2:1-41** - The Holy Spirit arrives on the day of Pentecost and 3,000 people choose to be baptized and join the church.
- **Matthew 28:18-20** - Jesus gives the Great Commission (Greater Mission) to the disciples.

Life Group Discussion Questions

1. Did God design the church to cater to insiders or to reach the unreached? How do we know that God intended for the church to reach people who don't know Jesus yet?
2. **Read Acts 2:1-41** and take time to reflect on what it would have been like to hear this message preached for the first time. (If you are in a group, have one person read this entire passage while the rest of the group listens.) Which portion of Peter's message is the most convicting to you? Which parts make you feel excited for what God can do?
3. God gave the church the mission to transform the world by revealing Jesus, but he did not leave the church to do this by itself. What has God already given to us so that we are empowered to do the work he has called us to do? *(If you need help, scroll down and discuss the list provided on the second page.)*
4. How can we grow in our passion for seeing other people's lives being transformed by Jesus Christ?
5. We know that God created every person to have a unique role to fulfill in the church (1 Corinthians 12:12, 18, & 27). **How can you be part of our church becoming a community that connects unchurched people to Jesus?**
 - a. How are you already living out your passion for this?
 - b. Where do you have room to grow in this area?
6. Who do you know who does not know Jesus yet? Can you commit to praying for them to become receptive to the message of Jesus and for an opportunity to invite them to experience our church? How can your life group encourage you to do this regularly?

Question 3 Answers: Gifts that God has given the church to achieve its mission.

- Jesus (John 3:16-17, & Philippians 2:5-11)
- The Holy Spirit (John 14:15-21 & John 16:5-7)
- Scripture and God's living word (2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 3:16-17 & Hebrews 4:12)
- All Spiritual Gifts (1 Corinthians 12-14, Ephesians 4:7-13)
- Everything we need (2 Peter 1:3)
- The Promises of God (2 Peter 1:4)
- Previous Examples of Great Faith (Hebrews 11:1-40)