

**LIFE TOGETHER**

# Church

Greek: *ekklesia*, -assembly, church.

From two words: *kaleo*, which means *to "call"*  
*and ek*, which means *"out"*

# The Church

*(Psa 133:1b NIV) How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity!*

Acts 2:42-47

Acts 4:34-37

Acts 5:1-14

## Point 1

The early church had community because it was committed.

# Committed Believers

*(Acts 2:42-45 NIV) 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.*

# A Giving Church

*(Acts 4:34-35 NIV) There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.*

## Point 2

The early church had community because they had participation.



# Fellowship

*(Acts 2:42 NIV) They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the **fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

# Koinonia

- partnership
- participation
- social intercourse
- pecuniary (money) benefaction
- (to) communicate (-ation)
- communion
- distribution
- fellowship (1/2x)

# Koinonia

- (Rom 15:26 NIV) For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a **contribution** for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.
- (1 Cor 10:16 NIV) Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a **participation** in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a **participation** in the body of Christ?
- (2 Cor 8:4 NIV) they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of **sharing** in this service to the saints.
- (Eph 3:9 NIV) and to make plain to everyone the **administration** of this mystery, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.
- (Phil 1:5 NIV) because of your **partnership** in the gospel from the first day until now,

## Point 3

The early church had community because they were united under one banner the Lord Jesus Christ.

# Unbeliever among you

*(1 Cor 14:22-23 NIV) Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is for believers, not for unbelievers. So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and some who do not understand or some unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?*

# Tares among wheat

*(Mat 13:24-26 NIV) Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared."*

# Coming for the wrong reason

*(John 6:26 NIV) Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, you are looking for me, not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate the loaves and had your fill."*

## Point 4

The early church had community because it had accountability and judgment.



# Judgment

*(Acts 5:3-4 NIV) Then Peter said, "Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have lied to the Holy Spirit and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land? Didn't it belong to you before it was sold? And after it was sold, wasn't the money at your disposal? What made you think of doing such a thing? You have not lied to men but to God."*

# Tell it to the church

*(Mat 18:17 NIV) If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or a tax collector.*

# Expel the wicked man

*(1 Cor 5:12-13 NIV) What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."*

# Have nothing to do with him

*(Titus 3:10 NIV) Warn a divisive person once, and then warn him a second time. After that, have nothing to do with him.*

.

# Net Result:

*Acts 5:11-14 Great fear seized the whole church and all who heard about these events. The apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number.*

# Conclusion