

This Is That Part 2: The Church

(Acts 2:12-16 NIV) Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?" Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine." Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel.

The Church

The Church is God's answer to the world's need.

(Matthew 16:18 NLT) I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

The Church is a purposeful gathering of people.

(Acts 16:5 NLT) So the churches were strengthened in their faith and grew larger every day.

1. I am surrounded by connection.

(Psalm 68:5-6 NIV) A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling. God sets the lonely in families.

2. I am supported by Biblical foundations.

(1 Corinthians 3:9 ESV) You are God's building.

(Matthew 7:24-25 NIV) Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.

3. I am strengthened by diversity.

(Romans 12:4-6 NLT) Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other. In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well.

4. I am satisfied by Christ's companionship.

(2 Corinthians 11:2 NLT) For I am jealous for you with the jealousy of God himself. I promised you as a pure bride to one husband—Christ.

Our Culture

*(Matthew 13:3-8 ESV) And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on **good soil** and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. He who has ears, let him hear."*

✓ **Worship Services**

✓ **Small Groups**

✓ **Next Steps**

✓ **Serve Teams**