

Good News Part 3: A People > A Place

*"Jesus traveled through all the towns and villages of that area, teaching in the synagogues and **announcing the Good News** about the Kingdom." Matthew 9:35 NLT*

✓ God doesn't need a building to know each of us.

*"The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and **does not live in temples built by human hands**. And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else." Acts 17:24-25 NIV*

*"Jesus replied... I will build my **church**, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it." Matthew 16:18 NLT*

✓ God isn't far from anyone of us.

*"From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though **he is not far from any one of us. 'For in him we live and move and have our being.'**" Acts 17:26-28 NIV*

*"The Lord is **close** to the brokenhearted; he **rescues** those whose spirits are crushed." Psalms 34:18 NLT*

✓ God responds in greater ways when we express faith and devotion.

*"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to **repent**." Acts 17:29-31 NIV*

*"For this reason **I kneel** before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. **I pray** that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And **I pray** that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. **Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine**, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen." Ephesians 3:14-21 NIV*

1. Begin each week with church and sabbath.

*"If you keep your feet from breaking the **Sabbath** and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath a delight and the Lord's holy day honorable, and if you **honor it** by not going your own way*

and not doing as you please or speaking idle words, then you will **find your joy** in the Lord, and I will cause you to **ride in triumph** on the heights of the land and to **feast** on the inheritance of your father Jacob.”
Isaiah 58:13-14 NIV

2. Pray as often as possible.

“Rejoice always, **pray continually**, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 NIV

“Keep on **asking**, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on **seeking**, and you will find. Keep on **knocking**, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, **receives**. Everyone who seeks, **finds**. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be **opened**.” Matthew 7:7-8 NLT

3. Study, memorize, and obey the Bible.

“**Be diligent** to present yourself approved to God as a workman who does not need to be ashamed, **accurately handling the word of truth**.” 2 Timothy 2:15 NASB

“All **Scripture** is inspired by God and is **useful** to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. God uses it to **prepare** and **equip** his people to do every good work.” 2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT

4. Love and serve your neighbor.

“Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: **‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’**”
Matthew 22:37-39 NIV

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the Kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world. For I was hungry, and you fed me. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger, and you invited me into your home. I was naked, and you gave me clothing. I was sick, and you cared for me. I was in prison, and you visited me.’ “Then these righteous ones will reply, ‘Lord, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you something to drink? Or a stranger and show you hospitality? Or naked and give you clothing? When did we ever see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ “And the King will say, ‘I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the **least of these** my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!’” Matthew 25:34-40 NLT

5. Worship Jesus.

“Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the **kingdoms** of the world and their **splendor**. “All this I will give you,” he said, “if you will bow down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: **‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’**” Then the devil left him, and angels came and attended him.” Matthew 4:8-11 NIV