



# GATHER & GROW

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## Icebreaker Question

How has this pandemic affected your involvement in church? Have you gotten more connected and engaged, or less connected and engaged? Why do you believe this has happened?

## Watch the Sermon Short Video Clip

## Key Teaching Points & Scriptures

### Matthew 7 (ESV)

**24** “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25** And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. **26** And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. **27** And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”

### Jesus gave us our mission.

### Matthew 28 (ESV)

**18** And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. **19** Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **20** teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### Hickory Grove exists to eradicate lostness in NKY by doing whatever it takes to help every person take their next step with Jesus.

### The first church informs our vision.

### Acts 2 (ESV)

**42** And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. **43** And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. **44** And all who believed were together and had all things in common. **45** And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. **46** And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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**Our Vision:**  
**Bless NKY.**  
**Build God's family.**

### **GATHER**

1. From now to the end of the year make worshiping with the family a priority every single Sunday.
2. When you gather on-line, treat it like your weekly "Super Bowl."

### **GROW**

Invite 1-7 people you know to meet with you for 5 weeks to discuss our "Best Gift Ever" teaching.

### **PRAY**

- ask God to adopt you into his family.
- ask God to help you be more committed to gathering.
- ask God to show you who to invite to grow in a group.

## **Discussion Questions**

What was your biggest takeaway from today's teaching?

If 2020 is that horrible storm that has beaten against your "house," what have you learned about your foundation?

How do you feel about the mission Jesus gives us?

What drives you to want to experience a worship gathering? What deters you or distracts you away from worship gatherings?

Why do you think the believers in the 1st century were so committed to gathering in worship that they did it every day?

What would help you be more committed to gathering in worship regularly (either in-person or virtual)?

Do you think treating a worship gathering like your weekly "Super Bowl" is realistic? Why or why not?

How do you feel about the idea of grabbing 1-7 friends and doing a small group for 5 weeks? What's hard about doing something like this?

Of the three things Bill listed to pray about, which one is the most important one for you right now? Why?

## **Pray**

Close your discussion time in prayer by specifically praying for those three things, and if possible, praying for them as it pertains to the specific people in your discussion group. If anyone is praying to be adopted into God's family, take time to celebrate that awesome first step of faith. Thank God for doing everything He has done to allow anyone who believes to be a part of His family. Ask for God's forgiveness for the times we have NOT done what Jesus has said. And ask God for the courage and boldness to DO everything Jesus says.