

The Church that Everyone Wants to “Join” David Owens
Acts 2:42-47 8.17.25

Introduction:

- A. In some respects, the _____ or the _____ death of our congregation is determined by the person we see when we look in the _____.
- B. This is the church of my dreams:
The church of the warm heart, of the open mind, of the adventurous spirit.
The church that cares, that heals hurt lives.
The church that comforts old people, that challenges youth, that knows no division of culture or class, no frontiers, geographical or social.
The church that inquires as well as the church that preaches,
That looks forward as well as backwards.
The church of the Master, the church of the people,
High as the ideals of Jesus, low as the humblest human.
A worshipping church, a working church
A witnessing church, a winsome church.
The church that interprets the truth in terms of its own times
And challenges its times in terms of the truth.
The church that inspires courage for this life,
And hope for the life to come.
The church of my dreams is the church of the living God.
- C. The very first church that began in _____ was an exceptional church and many people were _____ to it.
- D. From the example of that church, we see four _____ that will help us be the kind of church that will be pleasing to _____ and will _____ others.
- I. The first characteristic of a faithful and attractive church is: A Church that _____ God's _____. (Acts 2:42)
A. Both Jesus and the apostles gave _____ about _____ from God's Word. (Mt. 15:8-9; Acts 20:29-30; 2 Tim. 4:2-4)
- II. A second characteristic of a faithful and attractive church is: A Church that Maintains a _____. (Acts 2:42; 2:44-45; Jn. 13:35)
- III. A third characteristic of a faithful and attractive church is: A Church that Works with a _____. (Acts 2, Acts 5, Acts 6, Mt. 28:19; Mt. 5:13-16)
A. _____ + _____ = Impact.
B. Maximum Impact = Good _____ + Good _____ + Good _____.
- IV. A fourth characteristic of a faithful and attractive church is: A Church that Displays a Profound Sense of God's _____ and _____. (Acts 2:34; 4:29-31; Jn. 4:23; 2 Cor. 3:18; Mt. 5:44)

Conclusion:

- A. Are there _____ in your life that you need to make to help us become the church that God wants us to be?

Answer Key: Intro.A. life, death, mirror. C. Jerusalem, attracted. D. characteristics, attract. I. Follows, Word. I.A. warnings, straying. II. Caring, community. III. Clear, Mission. III.A. Salt, Light. III.B. life, deeds, words. IV. Presence, Power. Concl.A. changes.