

onechurch

bigIdea

When we think of *church*, why is a building the first thing that comes to mind? Is *church* a place full of robes and pews? Bands and banners? Or is *church* meant to refer to something different?

BIG IDEA: God takes full responsibility for the life wholly devoted to Him.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of *church*?
2. What were your first/early experiences of attending church? Were those positive or negative experiences in your faith journey?
3. If you had to describe the church you grew up in, would you characterize it as a movement or a monument? A people or a place? Alive or dead?
4. *Read Matthew 16:17-18.* In your words, how do you define *church*? What is the mission of the *church*?
5. *Read Acts 1-2.* After reading the first two chapters in Acts, what is the thing that sticks out to you the most about church that first day?
6. If the church began as a movement, how do you see the church moving today?
7. If the church began as a movement, what can you do to be a part of that movement?
8. *Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-29.* How does Paul describe the type of people God uses for His work to leave a legacy?



MOVING FORWARD

Church is much more than a building or a place. Church is more than pews or hymnals, lights and music. In fact, on opening day, the church had no buildings or rituals, no bands or robed choirs. What it did have was a gathering of people who were intent on one thing: to create followers of Jesus Christ. In that sense, the *church* was a movement that continues today, a multiplying, multi-cultural gathering of people who believe that Jesus is the Savior and whose lives reflect his teaching.

CHANGING YOUR MIND

Remember, dear brothers and sisters, that few of you were wise in the world's eyes or powerful or wealthy when God called you. Instead, God chose things the world considers foolish in order to shame those who think they are wise. And he chose things that are powerless to shame those who are powerful. God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God. 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

