

WELCOME

September 13, 2009

Discovery is a non-denominational Christian Church that seeks to lead people to discover and experience life, love and hope in Jesus Christ. These values drive our Sunday morning worship, community gatherings throughout the week, and the ministries we serve in.

FALL MESSAGE SERIES

'CHURCH'

A Study Through the Book of Acts

This week's message:

The Church... Waiting?

Acts 1:1-26

Defining the Church:

- **A PEOPLE REDEEMED by Jesus Christ,**
- **following Christ in:**
 1. **TEACHING GOD'S WORD**
 2. **BAPTISM & THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Studying the Book of Acts:

Author: Luke, a physician, a companion of Paul

Content: the continuing work of Jesus through his followers.

- Purpose:*
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| 1. To present a history | 3. To give a defense. |
| 2. To provide a guide. | 4. To depict the triumph of the church in the face of persecution. |

Being the Church...

1. is a **GOD-LED work.** (v. 1-5)
2. means we focus on being Jesus' **WITNESSES.** (v. 6-11)
3. sometimes means **"WAITING."** (v. 12-26)

How can we focus on Jesus during a time of "waiting"?

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|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Community Group Discussion Guide

Read Acts 1:1-26. If you missed Sunday's message, listen online.

Discuss Sunday's message:

- ◆ What did you like about Sunday's message? What did you find challenging? Was there something you struggled with?
- ◆ What is the church? As a group, write out a working definition of church that we will challenge with Scripture throughout this study.
- ◆ Read *Eph. 4:1-16* & *Col. 1:3-29*. What is the place of Jesus in his church? Do we put him in his proper position? How or how not?
- ◆ What does the church do? Brainstorm a list and then discuss the reason we do each of them. Can you think of Biblical reasons?
- ◆ What is God's purpose in the church here on earth? Do my personal views and goals match His? Why do you go to church?

Practicing What We've Preached:

- ▶ Are you in a season of "waiting"... or working? How are you focusing on Jesus in anticipation that he will work through you?
Read Ps. 46:10; 130:5; Is. 40:29-31; Rom. 8:22-25; Heb 10:24-25
- ▶ How do we truly focus on Jesus in our church? Are we effectively focusing people on Christ? How do you truly focus on Jesus?
- ▶ How will you and your group study the church together this Fall? Set up some guidelines and hold each other to them.

Have you been reading through Acts? What additional questions or insights do you have from your reading?

MORE NOTES:
