



Here is the church – SEE ALL THE PEOPLE. *Without the people it's not a church*

CONTEMPLATIVE DISCUSSION MODEL:

Ask these of the group or break into groups of 2-3 to allow people to interact more.

Who do you think you could really count on in a crisis? Who can really count on you?

What are you learning about God from the message?

What are you learning about yourself from the message?

What questions did the message leave you with?

What is God doing in your heart lately?

What things do you feel are getting in the way from what God wants to do in you?



STRUCTURED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: pick 4-5 for the group

Who do you think you could really count on in a crisis? Who can really count on you?

Do you feel like you belong at Sunridge? Why?

Read Acts 2:42-47. What was the Early Church devoted to and its results? In what ways is the modern church devoted in the same way? What things have been lost over the years?

When have you “gone solo” in your faith and when have you seen the importance of living out your faith in community? How do you determine which route is appropriate?

How do you rate Sunridge on the five one-anothers mentioned in the message? How do you rate yourself? What changes in your life would you like to make in light of those five?

What does Sunridge’s value statement *We pursue community. We view Sunridge as a family. Church is not a place we attend, but a community* mean to you? In what ways are you living that value out? In what ways do you sense God asking you to up your game in this area?

What could you do to help those “still in the rows” to step into a circle? What could Sunridge to be better at that?

What’s the biggest take-away for you from the *Here Is The Church* series?



Leader's Guide: SEE ALL THE PEOPLE. *Without the people it's not a church*

"Here is the church; here is the steeple. Open the doors; see all the people." You may remember that little rhyme - along with its hand gestures - from your childhood. But studies tell us that in America this year, when the doors open there will actually be less people to see inside than in years past. Has the church lost its mojo? Our *Here Is the Church* series rediscovers why church matters and just how much you matter to your church.

OUTLINE & SCRIPTURES

The Original

Acts 2:42 They **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the **fellowship**, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

44 All the believers were together and had everything in **common**. 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. 46 Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, 47 praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

We pursue community.

Two biblical images of the church that emphasize relationships

1. THE CHURCH IS THE FAMILY OF GOD

Eph 3:14 For this reason I kneel before the Father, 15 from whom his whole family in heaven and on earth derives its name

A family encourages you

1Th 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build each other up,

A family looks after you

Ga 6:10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

A family works through their problems

1Pe 3:8 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.



2. THE CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST

1Cor 12:12 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. 13 For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

Inferiority

14 Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be?

Sovereignty

18 But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. 19 If they were all one part, where would the body be?

Superiority

20 As it is, there are many parts, but one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, 24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment.

But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. 26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

We are a mosaic of Jesus