

# Christian Foundations Series

## Lesson 6 – The Church

### Church Introduction

On the Day of Pentecost, 50 days after the Passover when Jesus had died and rose again, the Holy Spirit swept through a room and empowered the disciples. Acts 1:15 tells us that there were about 120 believers at that point.

Later that day, when Peter preached his very first sermon, 3000 more people in Jerusalem believed in Jesus. The church had begun and was already growing rapidly. Today some estimates say that there are as many as 2.2-2.6 billion people in the world who claim to be believers. Research suggests that there may be somewhere between 8 and 35 million churches, depending on how they are counted.

This lesson will take a look at what it means to be part of both the worldwide church and a local church.

### Worship

- 1 Read [Matthew 16:18](#). Who did Jesus say He would build His church upon and how powerful would it be?
- 2 Read [Ephesians 2:20](#). What is the church described as being like? Who is the church built upon? Who is the cornerstone?
- 3 Read [Ephesians 5:23](#). Who does Paul say is the head of the church?
- 4 Read [Ephesians 5:25-27](#). What did Jesus do for the church? What is the future of the church?
- 5 What four things does it say that the early church was devoted to doing? [Acts 2:42](#) How do you think that compares with what churches are doing today?
- 6 Describe what the church was like in those early days after reading [Acts 2:43-47](#). How does this compare with the church today? What do you think the church should be like? What should the church be doing today? What have you learned from the early church?

### The Church Body

- 7 Read [1 Corinthians 12:12-27](#). What is the church compared to in verses 12 to 13? What is the role of the Holy Spirit? Paul contrasts some different types of people in verse 13. Why do you think he does that and what lesson is he trying to teach us?
- 8 What does Paul say about the human body in verses 14-27? How does Paul compare this with the church?

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- 9 Describe a time you have felt cared for by others. Do you think it is possible for the people in a church to care for each other? How might they do that?
- 10 What have you learned about the church from this lesson? What have you learned about the believer's role in the church?

### Series Outline:

1. Creation, The Fall and Salvation
2. Discipleship and the Lordship of Jesus
3. Our Daily Walk with God
4. Baptism
5. Worship & Breaking of Bread
6. The Church Body
7. The Holy Spirit & Spiritual Gifts
8. Wealth & Giving
9. Sharing Our Faith
10. Growing in our Faith
11. The Second Coming
12. Our Final Destination
13. Review