

We the Church:
An Unstoppable Movement

Question: When you hear the word “church” what do you think of? What is positive? What is negative?

Question: Have you ever been a part of starting or joining a larger movement that you felt passionate about? What was that? How did you get involved?

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

¹⁴ “Well,” they replied, “some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets.”

¹⁵ Then he asked them, “But who do you say I am?”

¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”

¹⁷ Jesus replied, “You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. ¹⁸ Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means ‘rock’), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.

Matthew 16:13-18 (NLT)

Re-read Matthew 16:13-18.

Question: If the “powers of hell will not conquer” the church how does that affect the way you see and participate with this UNSTOPPABLE MOVEMENT?

Question: The UNMISTAKEABLE MESSAGE of the Church is Jesus is “the Messiah, the son of the living God.” How does the church sometimes get distracted from this message?

⁶ So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

⁷ He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Acts 1:6-8 (NLT)

Re-read Acts 1:6-8

Question: The UNCONTAINABLE MISSION of the Church is “telling people about Jesus everywhere”. Where do you see our church living this out well?

Question: Where do we need to work on being the church on a mission?

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. ² Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. ³ Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. ⁴ And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

⁵ At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. ⁶ When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers.

Acts 2:1-6 (NLT)

Re-read Acts 2:1-6

Question: Every movement seems to have an event that sparks the fire of the movement. If you were in the room that day how would you have responded to that moment?

Question: How do you think you would feel about the people you shared that experience with?

³⁸ Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away - all who have been called by the Lord our God." ⁴⁰ Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!"

⁴¹ Those who believed what Peter said were baptized and added to the church that day - about 3,000 in all.

Acts 2:38-41 (NLT)

Re-read Acts 2:38-41

Question: How are you and I still a part of that movement started 2000 years ago? Do you feel connected to the movement?

Question: Is your faith moving? Or is it standing still? What can you do to create real movement in your faith and join the bigger Jesus movement?