

CHAPTER 9 – THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSE

Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:18–20, NIV)

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

Acts 2:1–47

Adam and Eve sinned, the world fractured, and God set about restoring/recreating his world. The mission of re-creation takes a major leap forward at the creation of the church in Acts. Since that day, in good times or bad, the church has never stopped growing. Read Acts 2:1–47.

1. The events on the day of Pentecost begin to fulfill Jesus’ promise of church growth (Acts 1:8). What amazed those gathered in Jerusalem (2:1–12)?

2. Living in our secularizing culture, while the church has a mixed reputation, God is still at work. What is it about Christianity and the church that amazes you?

3. Peter begins his first sermon by quoting a prophet from the Old Testament (vv. 17–21). What do you see in this experience that laid the foundation for the church to be multicultural, multigenerational, and multinational?

4. In what ways could the church today learn from this Spirit-inspired “multi” vision from the prophet Joel?

CHAPTER 9 – THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

5. The mission of the church is to proclaim the message: “Jesus, whom you crucified, [is] both Lord and Christ” (v. 36). What reasons does Peter offer for believing that message (vv. 22–41)?

6. Thousands responded to Peter’s sermon (vv. 22–39). Why do you think his message was so convincing to the people gathered in Jerusalem?

7. How convincing is that message in our culture today? Explain.

8. Reread verses 42–47. The church’s mission and message created a fellowship. How would you describe that first fellowship of believers?

9. “The Lord added to their number daily” (v. 47). What is our role and what is God’s role in the growth of the church?

10. The Holy Spirit, the gift of the Father sent by Jesus, lit the flame of mission in the fireplace of the church. What is your role in tending the flame of mission in the fireplace of the church?
