

Sunnyside Foursquare

Series: Ekklesia – The Purpose of the Church

Title: The Temple of God

Pastor DJ Vick / 6.28.26

Definitions:

Church (Greek: Ekklesia)-

*Definition: Called out ones, gathered in assembly,

I, DJ, like to say '*Called out ones who are united on mission*'

*Used in New Testament: 114 times in 111 verses

Read- Acts 17:24-28; 1 Corinthians 3:16-17; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 & 2 Corinthians 6:16-18; & Ephesians 2:21-22

Questions:

1. When you think of the church what comes to mind a place, a service/meeting, or a community of faith? Beyond Sunday mornings how are you connected to the body of Christ?
2. In the sermon, do you remember when Pastor DJ provided a brief history of how God met with His people throughout Biblical history (if you didn't catch that there's some help below)? As a group, take some time to recount that and what those different dispensations (time periods) must have been like in relation to knowing God.

Here's some help:

- **Biblical History of the Temple** | God Dwelling with His People
 - Tabernacle – Moses (Exodus: instructions & construction)
 - Temple- Solomon (1 Kings 18- Dedication of the Temple)
 - **Jesus**- Col. 2:9-10 "For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, ¹⁰and in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority." – Emmanuel, *God with us*
 - God's People- Acts 2:1-4 (The Church is Born). God now dwells within the hearts of His people.

3. When we speak of a temple we can easily think of a building, a location, or “a place to gather” with God’s people. Why is it SO profound that now **The Temple** is the community of believers? (Pastor Jerry Cook called this the Radical Relocation of God). We as God’s people, *The Temple*, are to be a prophetic presence in the world for Christ. [We DON’T go somewhere to find God, but rather He goes with us, and works mightily through us!]
 - a. “Prophetic- to see, hear, & speak from God’s perspective” – Jerry Cook
4. How does it make you feel knowing God calls you His temple (His dwelling place)? In other words, this is your identity. (1 Corinthians 3:16-17)
5. Because we are God’s Temple, He calls us to live a pure and holy life. What does that mean to you in your everyday life and the decisions you make? (1 Corinthians 6:19-20; 2 Corinthians 6:16-18)
6. As a member of God’s Temple, how important is it that we are ‘joined’ (connected) with other members of God’s Temple (fellow believers)? (Eph. 2:21-22)
 1. What are the benefits you’ve experienced from practicing that?