



SERMON NOTES

Week 1 September 25, 2022

“Opening Day”

Matthew 16:16–18; Acts 1:6–8; Acts 2:22–24, 32–33, 36–39, 41

I. Church

- A. The Greek term translated _____ is *ekklesia* - an assembly or gathering.
- B. The English term, church, comes from a different Greek term meaning “the Lord’s _____.”
- C. William Tyndale translated and published the first Bible in _____.

II. On This Rock

- A. In Matthew 16, Jesus _____ the launching of this movement.
- B. Two months after the _____, the movement begins.
- C. Peter preached the first _____ in church history.

III. Moving Forward

- A. The early church gathered around one idea – that _____ is the resurrected Christ.
- B. The _____ of the church was to create followers of Jesus Christ.
- C. It is our turn to make _____.

Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE *Sep. 25 – Oct. 1, 2022*

INTRODUCTION

When we think of church, why is a building the first thing that comes to mind? Is church a place full of robes and pews? Bands and banners? Or is church meant to be something different?

Monday: Matthew 16:13-18

Jesus makes a bold prediction about the formation of the church and that nothing will be able to stand in its way. This is one of the most significant prophecies in the entire Bible, because we are in some way a fulfillment of it. What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of church?

Tuesday: Acts 1:6-8

Just before Jesus leaves the planet, he gathers with about 100 to 120 of his followers. Among the people with him are the 11 apostles (they replace Judas later), his mother Mary, and his brothers and sisters. He gathers them on a hillside and gives them final instructions (in Matthew we call it the “Great Commission”). Based on these instructions, what do you think is the mission of the church?

Wednesday: Acts 2:1-41

During the Festival of Weeks (also referred to as Pentecost), the followers of Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit. They poured into the streets of Jerusalem and began to speak to all the people in their native languages. Peter then delivers the first sermon and three thousand people are baptized and become Jesus followers. This is opening day of the church. What is the thing that sticks out to you the most about church that first day?

Thursday: Acts 2:42-47

The followers of Jesus devoted themselves to the apostle’s teachings and they demonstrated God’s goodness to everyone. This resulted in more people becoming followers of Jesus. The church began as a movement and it kept moving. How do you see the church moving today? What can you do to be part of that movement?

Friday: Matthew 5:13-16

Notice: he doesn’t ask us to “go” to a place, but to be and to do certain things on God’s behalf. Tri-County Church in Pennsylvania gave their members T-shirts. On the front, they read, “I don’t go to church.” On the back, they said, “I AM the church.” When we let our light shine, then we truly ARE the church. How do you see members of Asbury let their light shine so that we ARE the church?

MOVING FORWARD

On opening day, the church had no buildings or rituals, no bands or robed choirs and no Bible. What it did have was a gathering of people intent on one thing: creating followers of Jesus Christ. The church was a movement that continues today: a multicultural gathering of people who believe that Jesus is the Savior and whose lives reflect his teaching. What can you do to be part of the movement?

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) church, B) house, C) English. IIA) predicts, B) resurrection, IIC) sermon. IIIA) Jesus, B) mission, C) disciples.