

More than Sunday School | Week 5

The church is the body of Christ. It is not a building, but a people called together for the common purpose of helping people meet, know and follow Jesus. The church is what uses to minister to us and to the world. The church is the Bride of Christ and He will one day return to claim her.

Conversation Starters (10 minutes)

- Have you been baptized? If you have been baptized, share your baptism story with the group. If you haven't, what questions do you have? Is anyone getting baptized this weekend?

Sermon Notes Review (15 minutes)

What caught your attention, stood out to you, or challenged you from this weekend's teaching?

[Watch the Video](#) (10 minutes)

- Prepare to watch the video by opening your Bible to [Matthew 28:19-20](#).
- You can read along with the Apostles' Creed on the screen, or you can download it [HERE](#).

Group Discussion (45 minutes)

Starter Question from the Video:

1. Is there a step of obedience you sense the Holy Spirit prompting you to take in the realm of giving, serving, or inviting?

Scripture Observation

Read [Matthew 16:13-18](#)

2. According to verses 13–16, how did the crowds answer Jesus' question about who He is, and how was Peter's answer different?

Scripture Interpretation/Discussion:

3. In your Bible, circle the word "church" in verse 18. Jesus says He will build His church on the truth Peter just spoke. What do you think it means that the church is built on the truth that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God"?
4. The word "church" comes from *ekklesia* — a group called out and gathered for a shared purpose. How is that different from how our culture usually thinks about "going to church"?

Personal Application:

6. The church is not a building you come and sit in. It's a movement we choose to be a part of to help people meet, know, and follow Jesus. Who has been "the church" to you in that way, and how did they help you take a step toward Jesus?

7. In what practical way could you show up as "the church" for someone outside the walls of the church this week?

Prayer (5 minutes)

Close your time in prayer. You can use your own words or these words:

Jesus, thank You for calling us into Your church. Not to a building, but to a family. Help us love each other well and to join You in helping people meet, know, and follow You. Amen.

For Further Exploration

- Discover your purpose and experience God. Learn more about what it means to not just come to church, but to be the church in our upcoming Rooted groups.
 - Rooted starts the week of September 21 at all locations
 - Register at rooted.sv.cc.
- Continue to work on memorizing [the Apostles' Creed](#).
- Follow along with the **Daily Reading Plan in the SV app** for daily bible study related to the weekend message. (*Find it on the Media Feed page at the top*)