

## Why Go To Church?

### Lesson 29

## Matthew 21:12-13

### Memory Verse

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.**  
Proverbs 3:5-6

### Introduction

Have you ever shared something? Many times it feels so good to share and help others. Let's see how new Christians felt when they shared things with others.

Back in Bible times, after Jesus rose up to Heaven, many people heard about Him and wanted to know more. Jesus' friends shared their stories with them. When a person shares his experience of Jesus with others, it is called a testimony.

### Scripture

**Acts 2:5-11**

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. Utterly amazed, they asked: "Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

### Discussion

**Ask: What happened on the day of Pentecost?**

One particular day, Jesus' friends were meeting and a wonderful miracle happened. People from many different countries were in town. They spoke different languages. When Jesus' friend, Peter, spoke, they could hear him in their language!! All the people understood in their own language! That was truly an amazing miracle!

**Ask: What did Peter say to them?**

Peter told his testimony of how Jesus had changed his life and how Jesus was the only way to Heaven.

**Ask: What was the reaction of the people?**

When the people heard this, over 3,000 believed in Jesus that day. It was such an exciting day. People from all over the world heard about Jesus in their own language and trusted in Him.

## Discussion

After this happened, the people wanted to come together to learn more about Jesus. They wanted to go to church to learn more about His love and kindness to them. So, people began gathering together as a church to share, learn and worship. As a church, they also spent time together, ate together and prayed together.

The Church is not only a building. It was the people who were gathered together to worship God and learn more about Him. Even today, we know that the church is the people who believe in Him, not necessarily the building where we meet.

### **Acts 2:41**

**Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.**

#### **Ask: What did the believers do?**

They were baptized and joined the church.

### **Acts 2:42**

**They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.**

#### **Ask: What evidence was there that they truly believed?**

It was such a happy time. The people came to church every day to learn and grow in their new understanding. The people even shared their money with anyone who had a need.

### **Acts 2:43-46**

**Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.**

#### **Ask: What evidence was there that they were a united church?**

God blessed the time and many more people came to know Him. Everyone had a caring and honest heart. They loved each other and took care of everyone's needs.

#### **Ask: Why did they go to church?**

They went to church to learn more about Jesus, to share with others, to eat together and to pray. God used that time for the people to learn. When they went back to their homes in other countries, they were able to share what they had experienced with others and helped them to believe in Jesus. How exciting! People all over the world were learning and believing in Jesus!

## Application

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### **Ask: Do you have a testimony about Jesus?**

Remember is a testimony a word a person shares with another about what he experienced. If you believe in Jesus, you can share your testimony with someone else about how He changed your life.

### **Ask: Would you like to invite Jesus to be a part of your life?**

#### **Romans 10:9-10**

**That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.**

Romans 10:9-10 tell us that we need to do two things. First, we have to confess with our mouth that Jesus Christ is Lord. Second, we have to believe in our heart that God has raised him from the dead. Then we will be saved and we will have a new life.