

What Is The Church: Ekklesia

Acts 2:42-47

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Thesis: In order to fulfill the will of God, the church must know who it is, what it is to be devoted to, and how to express that devotion.

1. Ekklesia Explained

A. Definition

B. Local Versus Universal

C. Gathered Versus Scattered

2. The first church becomes the pattern for us in their devotion to four things (Acts 2:42).

A. The Apostles' Teaching

B. Fellowship

C. The Breaking of Bread

D. Prayers

3. The devotion of the early church was expressed in four ways (Acts 2:43-47).

A. Devotion to the apostles' teaching expressed in a life lived in awe (vs. 43)

B. Sacrificial love expressed in sacrificial giving (vs. 44-45)

C. Unity in the gospel expressed in regular fellowship (vs. 46-47a)

D. Trust in God's power to save, expressed in obedience to God's word (vs. 47b)

Application:

1. Do you see the church as who you are or as something you do?

2. As the church, are you devoted to the same things as the early church?
Are you working towards the expression of those things?