

The Ordinary Church is...HOSPITABLE (vs. 46)
...GRATEFUL (“glad”)
...GENEROUS

In which of these areas do you/do we need to grow?

The Ordinary Church is...WORSHIPFUL and WINSOME (vs. 47)

Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Peter 2:12

The Ordinary Church is ...INCREASING (vs. 47)

Praise God...Earn favor with ALL people...Watch the Lord add!!

As an Ordinary Church:

- be bound together by belief in the gospel
- understand its implications
- be devoted to faithful obedience
- display enjoyment of its blessings

“One cannot explain the explosive dynamite...of the early church apart from the fact that they practiced two things simultaneously: orthodoxy of doctrine and orthodoxy of community in the midst of the visible church, a community which the world could see. By the grace of God, therefore, the church must be known simultaneously for its purity of doctrine and the reality of its community.”

~ Francis Shaeffer (*The Church Before a Watching World*, p.62)

Sunday, July 12, 2026
Nate Hatting

ACTS—The Confident Witness of Jesus Christ
No. 8 | The Ordinary Church
Acts 2:42-47

Review and Context

The promised Holy Spirit’s arrival comes on the day of Pentecost. (Acts 2:1-15)

Peter proclaims the prophetic fulfillment of the Messiah and calls for the crowds to make a verdict about Jesus as both Master and Messiah (Lord and Christ). (Acts 2:16-36)

3000 people were “*cut to the heart*” and respond to the reality of Spiritual conviction with FAITH: repentance and belief. (Acts 2:37-41)

Acts 2:41-47 – The Ordinary Church

Description...not prescription. Continuity...and discontinuity.

- Historically report what happened
- Literarily indicate the passage of time
- Theologically highlight God’s presence and power in the Church
- Ecclesiologically outline the Church’s essential characteristics
- Missiologically record the Church’s growth and expansion

** The Ordinary Church is the Church at its best! **

“[Church] is a physical gathering of Jesus-followers in local assemblies, worshipping God together through various means like giving, baptizing, discipling, praying, singing, preaching, learning, sharing and so forth governed by a formal structure of elders and deacons... A church...functions...as a family that sacrifices for one another and encourages one another and shares with one another...all out of love for one another.”

~ Cory Marsh (*Recovering a Vintage Faith*, p.139)

What must a church be and do? What can a church be and do?

The Ordinary Church is...REGENERATE (vs. 41,44,47)

Composed of those who are saved...who have received/believed the Gospel... who are Spirit-indwelt and baptized.

Church Membership: distinct and identifiable group covenanted together under pastoral leadership and care.

The Ordinary Church is...DEVOTED

(vs. 42)

“they devoted themselves...”

to: “***the apostles’ teaching***”

Doctrine / Instructional Truths

Are you submitted to, and adhering to, teaching in sound doctrine?

“***the fellowship***” (Greek = “*koinonia*”)

To share with someone(s) in something above and beyond the relationship itself

Are you in this kind of fellowship within Anchor Baptist Church?

“***the breaking of bread***”

Communion / The Lord’s Supper...the obedience of remembrance and anticipation

Do you hold this same devotion to the Ordinances in our gatherings?

“***the prayers***”

Acts 1:14, 2:42, 3:1, 6:4, 10:2,4,9,30,31, 11:5, 12:12, 16:13,25, 20:36, 21:5, 22:17

Radical dependence upon God expressed in a devotion to prayer; both corporate and public as well as individual and private.

Do you recognize your dependence on God and petition him in devoted prayer?

The Ordinary Church is...FULL OF AWE

(vs. 43)

“[And] Awe came upon every soul [but also] wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.”

Are you full of awe over what God is doing in the Church?

The Ordinary Church is...UNITED (“together”)

(vs. 44)

Visible demonstration of Spiritual reality

Are you ‘together’ with the members of ABC?

The Ordinary Church is...SELFLESS and SERVING

(vs. 45)

Does God’s enormous grace to you, and the awe of the gospel’s transforming power, spur you on to your own selfless service to others?

The Ordinary Church is...GATHERED

(vs. 46)

“Do not neglect to meet together, as is the habit of some...” ~ Heb. 10:25