

Five Reasons
To Be
All In
At Church



### Commitment to a church is thoroughly biblical

The core members we interviewed understand that Christian joy emanates from Christ and obedience to him. Starting in Acts 2 all the way through Revelation 3 is about the local church, or at least it was written in the context of the local church. Simply stated, you cannot be joyfully obedient to Christ with nominal or no commitment to a church. You're either in or not.

# 2. Commitment to a church requires accountability

After the first church started in Jerusalem, Luke describes their initial activity. These first church members understood that their Christian life was communal, not a solo act. They thus devoted themselves to "fellowship," a term that meant more than potluck meals. It meant taking care of one another and holding one another accountable. They needed each other.

### 3. Commitment to a church creates a pathway to fully and deeply study Scripture

There was a commitment to each other to studying the Bible. Typically they studied Scripture in three ways.

- A) They had their own personal study and devotion
- B) They were active in a church small group where Bible Study takes place.
  - C) They hear the Word in weekly sermons.

### 4. Commitment to a church is necessary for Great Commission obedience

Committed members should desire to share the gospel consistently not just admit obedience sporadic on their own. They thrive evangelistically when the church as a whole commits to proclaiming Christ together. It gives them a plan and a system of accountability. Research shows an incipient but growing evangelistic movement in churches, and God is using these committed members as the catalyst.

#### 5. Commitment to a church is good for families

We didn't anticipate comments about their families in our interviews with core church members, yet it's common to hear that a healthy church benefits marriages and children. Some members noted articles they've read about the correlation between committed church membership and families' health.

"The most joyful and selfless people we know are Christians committed to their local churches.

And we have good reasons to believe their influence will spread for the glory of God."

# Weekly Devotional <a href="Matthew 28">Matthew 28</a>

16Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. 17When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. 18Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.19Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."