



## September 11th, 2016 || Praxis: Mission

The **Book of Acts** records the growth of the very first church. In chapter 1 of Acts, Jesus is exiting this earth and preparing the church for all that would come next. **It's the beginning of the church!**

- *Why do you go to church?*
  - *(Take time for real reflection about what motivates you to get up on Sunday Morning, sing songs, listen to teaching, serve in your community, and attend a group in someone's home.)*

What is the church? The church is anyone who has been made new by following Jesus, collectively living under the mission of God. **The People of God on the Mission of God.**

- *In what ways is it possible that people AT the church are actually not IN the church?*

As a group, **read Acts 1:4-9** together as a group. This text establishes the two main purposes of the church. To **put God at the center through worship**, and to **be a witness to the world** around them.

- *How does Jesus' command to "wait for the promise" establish the purpose of the church to worship Him? (vs. 4-5)*
- *What role does worship play in putting God in His proper place?*
- *To whom do we have the responsibility to live as a witness for?*

**Our purpose is found in keeping God centered in our practices and His mission spreading throughout the world.** Every church attempts to be led by these two guiding principles.

- *What practices do you see at Grace Community Church that specifically attempt to put God at the center of all that we do?*
- *As you've been involved in the mission of Grace Community Church, has your heart been increasingly drawn towards the things of God? In what ways specifically.*
- *How does the witness of a changed life affect those inside and outside of the church?*

**We want our understanding of the world to compel us to be strong faithful witnesses for Jesus.** No matter how "good" anyone appears to be, we are all in need of His Grace.

- *How does God want you to be a better worshiper and witness for him?*