



“Live Your Faith”
Next Steps Series
Pastor Mark
1.19.20

“In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.” Acts 6:1-7

A “**NON-SERVING CHRISTIAN**” is a contradiction in terms.
Most of the time, we’re more interested in “**SERVE US**” than **SERVING**.

Many people think, “Aren’t the **PASTORS** the ones to do the ministry?”

- According to the Bible, a pastor’s job is to **EQUIP** the members for ministry.
 - So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to **equip his people for works of service**, so that the **body of Christ may be built up**.” Ephesians 4:11-13

We actually believe that people spend eternity **SOMEWHERE**.

- We actually believe there is a **HEAVEN** & there is a **HELL**, & this isn’t just a game.
- We actually believe Jesus Christ is the **ONLY WAY** to God the Father.
- So consequently, we believe we have the **MOST IMPORTANT** mission in the whole world, & it will take **ALL OF US** to be engaged!
 - C3’s Mission: “To make **MORE & BETTER** followers of Jesus Christ!”

“Church” is a **VERB**, not a noun!

C3 Group Questions

Last Week's Next Steps: Did you gather at C3 on Sunday to express your faith? Did you build your faith this week through consistent time in prayer & God's Word? If so share what stood out to you in your time with God?

Ice Breaker: What is a skill or ability you secretly possess that most people don't know about?

Review: What one thing stood out to you (either helpful, insightful or troubling) from the weekend's message?

Group Discussion:

In the past, who stands out as a person who served you or a church well? What did that person do that stood out to you?

Read Ephesians 4:11-13. What is God's purpose in giving gifts to His people? Why is it important that each part of "the body" does its work?

According to Ephesians 4:11-13, what's the problem with trying to live the Christian life apart from the church? In what ways do you need others?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27. How connected are you to the church body at C3? What could you do to help "the body" function better?

How do you, or could you, use your gifts & abilities within the church? What holds you back from using your gifts more fully?

Read Acts 6:1-7. What does this passage say to us about the value of every Christian being involved in ministry? What was the outcome when Christians got involved in ministry (see verse 7)?

How can this group pray for you this week? Who in this group can you pray for this week?

This Week's Next Steps: (*"Do not merely listen to the word.....Do what it says."* James 1:22)

- Pray this prayer: *"God, I don't want to just go to church, I want to be Your Church. God, You gave me gifts, talents, & abilities so I can use them to serve others. Lead me into where I can serve & do the most good & be fruitful & fulfilled! In Jesus name, amen."*
- Commit to your next step & live it out this week! If you don't know what next steps are, go to this page on our C3 website: <https://www.c3tricity.com/nextsteps/>