

NOW WORD Covenant Church
UNCHURCH THE CHURCH
20 Years Later – Part II
Sunday, January 12, 2020

Introduction: My first sermon for our church 20 years ago was “**Unchurch the Church.**” The objective of the message was to encourage members of the church to stop “**churchin**” it.

Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

v.42. All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and in prayer.

v43. A deep sense of awe came over them all, and the apostles performed many miraculous signs and wonders. **v44.** And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. **v45.** They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.

v46. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord’s Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity - **v47.** all the while praising God and enjoying the goodwill (favor) of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.

Our Message: Unchurch the Church

PT1. The church was devoted to its _____

Acts 2:42-47 (NLT)

v42. All the believers **devoted** themselves to the apostles’ teaching (doctrine), and to **fellowship**, and to **sharing in meals** (including the Lord’s Supper), and **in prayer**.

- Apostles’ Doctrine – uniformity of beliefs
- Fellowship – sharing life together in Christ
- Communion – unity in Christ
- Prayer – closeness with God

Reasons Jesus prayed

1. He had a relationship with God
2. He heard God speak
3. He got results after he prayed

PT2. The church was in _____

v43. A deep sense of **awe** came over them all, and the apostles **performed** many miraculous **signs** and **wonders**.

- Awe – reverence of God
- Authority – sign and wonders

PT3. The church was a _____

v44. And all the believers met together in one place and **shared everything** they had. **v45.** They sold their property and possessions and shared the money with those in need.

v46. They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, and shared their meals with great joy and generosity –

- Shared – sold their possessions and goods
- Worshiped – the temple
- Grouped – house to house

v47. all the while praising God and enjoying the **goodwill (favor)** of all the people. And each day the Lord **added** to their fellowship those who were being saved.

- Results – **favor** and **addition**

The next 20 years:

- Culture
- Awe
- Comm-unity

Name three takeaways:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Life Group Discussions

Discuss your takeaways and the following points from Sunday's message:

1. Discuss how you personally avoid churchin it
2. Discuss the consumerism and customer service church
3. Discuss the difference between church growth and church maturity.
4. Discuss the duty of the Pastor-Teacher (Ephesians 4:11-13)
5. Discuss how to devote yourself to the culture of NWCC
6. Discuss how to maintain awe in NWCC
7. Discuss how your part of the comm-unity in NWCC