

# THE CHURCH.

INWARD. OUTWARD. UPWARD. BACKWARD.

*Inward – Helping Each Other (Acts 2:41-47) - The Church at Jerusalem*  
*September 1, 2024*

## **2024 – One Church**

### **Experiencing Jesus' way of living – community & connection with the church**

Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added [to them]. **Acts 2:41 NKJV**

#### **Christ calls us to build community in the church**

And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. **Acts 2:42 NKJV**

Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. **Acts 2:43 NKJV**

#### **Christ calls us to invest in the Kingdom through the church**

Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, **Acts 2:44 NKJV**

and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. **Acts 2:45 NKJV**

So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, **Acts 2:46 NKJV**

Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; **Romans 12:10 NKJV**

not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; **Romans 12:11 NKJV**

rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; **Romans 12:12 NKJV**

distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. **Romans 12:13 NKJV**

### **Christ calls us to make the invitation to the church**

praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved. **Acts 2:47 NKJV**

### **This week's [OWNit365 Whole Bible Plan:](#)**

September 2 - Isa 30-31 & John 21-Acts 1

September 3 - Isa 32-33 & Acts 2

September 4 - Isa 34-36 & Acts 3

September 5 - Isa 37-38 & Acts 4

September 6 - Isa 39-40 & Acts 5

September 7 - Isa 41-42 & Acts 6

September 8 - Reflection & Prayer

September 1

[VISITGRACECHURCH.COM/KIDS](http://VISITGRACECHURCH.COM/KIDS)



In this series, we learn that God made the world we live in. He made land, sky, sea and plants!

**Memory Verse:** "God made the World" Genesis 1:1 (Adapted for Toddlers)

**Heart of the Lesson:** God Made the Sea

**Parent Connect:** Fill a shallow tub with water and bath toys. Discuss how God made the sea as you play together in the water.



This series will go into the different ways different people decided to listen to God and to follow His plan for them!

**Memory Verse:** "The angel of the Lord appeared to him and said, 'Mighty hero, the Lord is with you!'" Judges 6:12

**Heart of the Lesson:** Deborah – Judges 4-5

**Parent Connect:** Today we learned about Deborah who was a judge and God spoke to her while sitting under a palm tree – saying to go speak to Barak about following God's instructions. Go outside with your kid and sit under a tree. Talk about ways you can follow God, too!



The church needs to focus inward, outward, upward, and backward. In this series we'll use the popular game 'Dance Dance Revolution' to help us understand these concepts.

**Memory Verse:** The Lord directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. 1 John 2:6

**Heart of the Lesson:** People in the Church Help Each Other - Acts 2:41-47

**Parent Connect:** Today we learned how important it is to help the people around us. Talk as a family and decide who your family is going to intentionally help this week. We can't wait to hear your stories!

# THE CHURCH

This month we are looking at four aspects, the “DNA” of the church. We will look inward – how we help each other grow spiritually within the church outward – sharing Jesus with the world, upward – focusing our eyes on Jesus and Heaven, and backward – going back to the promise God made for the church.

**Memory Verse:** “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.” Hebrews 10:24-25

**Heart of the Lesson:** Inward – The Church helps each other (Acts 2:41-47 – The Church at Jerusalem)

**Parent Connect:** Consider doing a RAK (random act of kindness) for a family at church that your family connects with. You can also talk about people that have helped your family from church and friends from church that your family has helped.

# THE CHURCH



The Church has a mission to build relationships with Jesus and with others. That looks like focusing on relationships IN the Church, OUT in our community, UP towards Jesus, and remembering BACK to Jesus’ promise for the Church. This series, we’re looking at how we are called to connect with our Church family, local community, and with Jesus!

**Memory Verse:** And because you belong to him, you too are being built together. You are being made into a house where God lives through his Spirit. (Ephesians 2:32)

**Heart of the Lesson:** Inward - The Church Grows when we Help Each Other (Acts 2)

**Parents/Caregivers:**

- How did the church start?
- What sort of things did the church do when it started?
- What sort of things can we do in the church now that the first believers did?
- What does Jesus want those in the church to do for those who don’t come to church?