

# Why Church?

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**Question:** How important is church in your life?

**Many followers of Jesus would say  
“Jesus is essential, but church is optional.”**

**Questions:** Do you think in our day we take church seriously enough? Why?

**Read** Matthew 16:18

The first person to use the word “Church” in the Bible was Jesus.

The word “Church” in the original Greek is *ekklesia* /ek·klay·see·ah meaning “assembly” or “gathering”.

**Read** Acts 19:32, 38-39 and try to pick out where this word “church” is used.

Jesus was alluding to the story of the people of God gathered at Mount Sinai when He uses the word “church.” At Mount Sinai:

- they were identified as the people of God
- they worshipped and received the Word of God
- they encountered the presence of God

**Read** Act 7:38; Hebrews 12:18-29; Matthew 18:20; 1 Corinthians 5:4

**Question:** What insights do these verses give about what “church” is?

**There is something intangible that happens  
when we worship God together, out loud,  
with people who share faith in Jesus!**

If you’re flying solo, you’ve seriously misunderstood what it means to follow Jesus!

**Question:** In what way is this statement true?

**Questions:** How can you prioritize church? What would you add to the following list? What step will you take to prioritize the church?

- Commit to gathering
- Pray (Read Acts 2:1-4)
- Serve – [www.generation.ca/engage](http://www.generation.ca/engage)
- Invite