

# I Love My Church: Embody My Church

*Darcy Siggelkow*

**Question:** What is the first thing that comes to mind when you think of “church”?

**The local church has always been at the heart of God’s plan.**

**Read** Matthew 16:18 (NLT)

- When you find the word “church” in the Bible almost every time it’s referring to a local group of people.
- A church is a gathering of people who are following Jesus together.

**The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer.**

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**Read 2** John 12

**The most underrated aspect of Christian faith is the local church.**

**Questions:** When is the first time you connected with the church? Historic or more recent? What’s the story?



**Ecclesiology:** what does it mean to be the church?

- When “personal” salvation becomes the defining image of Christian life it has huge implications for how we live our faith.

**Read** 1 Corinthians 12:12, 20-21

**I need the body of Christ, and the body of Christ needs me!**

**Anthropology:** what does it mean to be human?

- Humans are embodied creatures!
- You can’t “spiritualize” your faith. What you do with your body matters.

**Read** James 1:27; 1 Corinthians 6:13, 20; Psalm 134:2; Psalm 47:1, 6

**The physical presence of other Christians is crucial to our formation and well-being.**

Alastair Sterne

- A disciple is someone who has moved from being the recipient of the church’s mission to being responsible for the church’s mission.

**Because My Church matters I will**

1. Show up and be friendly!
2. Worship sincerely!
3. Give generously!
4. Serve enthusiastically! [generations.ca/serve](http://generations.ca/serve)

**Questions:** Which one of these are you most familiar with? Which one do you need to give more focus to? What is one step you will take for this focus?