

HOW IT STARTED

HOW IT'S GOING

SUMMER 2021 SERIES OVERVIEW:

What is the Church? Why are we here? And what, exactly, is our message? These are the questions we will explore as we spend all summer in the book of Acts, which chronicles the tumultuous early days of the gospel's spread around the Roman Empire. Although it would take a year to preach through every notable event in Acts, we will be digging into 9 key moments in the book which help us understand not only what happened as the first apostles preached, but **how** these moments connect to the broader purpose and identity of the body of Christ.

WEEK 1 - THE CHURCH IS BORN

OVERVIEW

To kick off the series, we will look at a snapshot of the first days of the Church and explore why the community was filled with awe, enjoying the goodwill of all the people, and growing daily in number. As we will see, this brief moment paints the picture of **what the Church can be at its best**. It's an invitation for us to pursue the same thing, which is what we intend to do in this next chapter for Grace Church at 146 and Fishers!

*A deep sense of awe came over them all.
Acts 2:43*

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Share one of the most awe-inspiring moments you've ever experienced. What made it that way?
2. How would you describe "the church" today?
3. Read **Acts 2:42-47**. Barry defined fellowship, koinonia, as "participating together in a shared identity or purpose". Do you feel a strong sense of koinonia at Grace? What are some practical ways we could increase this?
4. Are you in a season of spiritual malaise because of the pandemic or some other reason? What will it take for you to get past a feeling of being "stuck" spiritually?
5. Barry suggested three ideas to help get back in the game and live your best possible life: 1. Make a commitment (or recommitment) to Jesus, 2. Devote yourself to the apostles' teaching, 3. Devote yourself to koinonia. Which of these resonate with you? With the help of the Holy Spirit, what is your next step?

RESOURCES

gracechurch.us