

The Greatest Adventure

The **PEOPLE**

Community Group Guide

CONVERSATION STARTER

As we continue to look at the Greatest Adventure, we have talked so far about Jesus as the Hero of the Story, how he went to the cross and his resurrection. As the story moves forward we see Jesus establish a new people called the church. Today we want to discuss and learn more about the people of the Greatest Adventure.

Church is often seen as an institution rather than a people. What ideas or cultural views contribute to that view?

GETTING INTO THE SCRIPTURES

The Bible tells us that there are forty days between Jesus' resurrection and his ascension. The church begins to take shape in light of Jesus' work. In the opening verses of Acts 1:1-11, what does the disciples' response tell us about what they thought was going to happen next?

Based on Jesus' response, what does he indicate is to happen next?

What does Jesus mean when he says "power" and "witnesses"? How would this shape this new people, the church?

JOINING IN THE GREAT ADVENTURE

In their book *Doctrine*, Gerry Breshears and Mark Driscoll, give the following definition of the church: "The local church is a community of regenerated believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord. In obedience to Scripture they organize under qualified leadership, gather regularly for preaching and worship, observe the biblical sacraments of baptism and Communion, are unified by the Spirit, are disciplined for holiness, and scatter to fulfill the Great Commandment and the Great Commission as missionaries to the world for God's glory and their joy."

Would you consider this to be an accurate definition? Why or why not?

Do you believe that it is missing something? Or added something that should not be there?

Based on the sermon and our discussion tonight, do you believe there are aspects of being the church that we have embraced well? And some we have neglected to embrace? If so, what are they?

What do you see as your role in the church? How is the Lord leading you to be faithful in that role? This could be something that you are already fulfilling, and you can share how God has used that in your life. Or this could be a role you feel like he is calling you to step into now, and how you see God wanting to use you to encourage the people of God.