

# 03 UNCOMMON UNITY

KEY TEXT: ACTS 2:41-47

## CENTRAL truth

With the epic arrival of the Holy Spirit, the formal and public birth of the church took place. Three thousand people responded to Peter’s sermon by repenting of sin and being baptized. Through the Spirit, **Jesus creates a new kind of community that is devoted to Him and reflects His goodness.**

## key question

**Why is it important for us to see the church as a community we’re a part of and not a place we go?**

The New Testament authors use the word “church” to refer to a community of people—not a place or an event we attend. This community is the Spirit-filled people of God united under King Jesus. Grasping this helps us to understand the scope and depth of God’s work in our lives and creates a desire for us to see people experience the joy of belonging to His family.

## keep in mind

- One of the marks of the early church was their uncommon generosity toward one another. Many students may equate generosity with giving financially. While this is an element of generosity, there are ways to be generous that don’t involve money. Help students to see that they can be generous with their time and talents as well.
- God used the spiritual practices to water and nourish the early church, and spiritual practices continue to be integral in the life of the Christ-follower today. Students may feel overwhelmed with being presented with so many practices. Focusing on the **Application question** below, aid them in identifying one area in which they can begin connecting with the Lord.

## application

**Which practice listed in Acts 2:42 is the one that you’re the least familiar with? How can you begin to familiarize yourself with it?**

## the win

**FOR THE STUDENT:** Students should grasp the reality that the church is not limited to a building where they meet; instead, it is God’s family united under King Jesus.

**FOR THE LEADER:** Spiritual practices play a key component in this week’s teaching. Leaders can help students to understand that as followers of Jesus, it’s important to continue engaging with the practices listed in Acts 2:42.

SUMMER  
2024