



The church is not merely a building, event, or audience. Scripture presents the church as a gathered covenant people united under Christ through worship, truth, fellowship, mission, and shared life together.

WHAT THE CHURCH IS NOT

- NOT MERELY AUDIENCE → BIBLICALLY COVENANT PEOPLE
- NOT MERELY EVENT → BIBLICALLY SHARED LIFE
- NOT MERELY CONTENT CONSUMPTION → BIBLICALLY PARTICIPATION
- NOT MERELY RELIGIOUS CLUB → BIBLICALLY BODY OF CHRIST
- NOT MERELY PRIVATE SPIRITUALITY → BIBLICALLY GATHERED WORSHIP
- NOT MERELY INDIVIDUAL ISOLATION → BIBLICALLY ONE ANOTHER LIFE

WHAT IS THE GATHERED CHURCH?



THE BIBLICAL PICTURE

The church is a gathered people belonging to Christ, living together in worship, truth, fellowship, holiness, and mission as His body in the world.

KEY SCRIPTURES



Acts 2:42
"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers."



Hebrews 10:24-25
"And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another."



1 Corinthians 12:12-27
"For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ."



Ephesians 4:15-16
"...but speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: from whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love."



Matthew 18:20
"For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

HOW CHRIST FORMS HIS PEOPLE



CHRIST GATHERS

He calls people into His family.



WORSHIP FORMS

He shapes hearts through worship and His Word.



FELLOWSHIP STRENGTHENS

He builds us up in love and unity.



TRUTH MATURES

He teaches us and transforms us into His likeness.



MISSION SENDS

He sends us to make disciples and represent His Kingdom.

QUICK COMPARISON

ASPECT	GATHERED CHURCH
Identity	Covenant people united under Christ
Authority	Christ alone is Head and Lord
Purpose	Worship, formation, fellowship, and mission
Life Together	One another ministry and shared life
Witness	Visible representation of Christ's Kingdom
Hope	Christ's return and the fullness of His Kingdom

★ KEY TRUTHS

- ✓ Christ gathers His church.
- ✓ Christianity is embodied covenant life.
- ✓ Worship and mission belong together.
- ✓ Every believer participates.
- ✓ The church visibly represents Christ's Kingdom.
- ✓ Christians grow through shared life together.



THE BOTTOM LINE

The church is Christ's gathered covenant people living together under His reign through worship, truth, fellowship, holiness, mission, and shared hope until He comes.



TEACHER NOTE

Use this handout as the opening framework for RC2. Encourage learners to see the church not merely as a weekly service, but as a living covenant people formed together under Christ.