



Take Home Church | Jimmy Rollins | 4.19.20
Weekly Study

START

To get things started, go around the circle and answer the following question:

Where do you work most frequently from when you are at home? Your office? Your kitchen table? The backyard? Your bed?

SHARE

Welcome to Week One of 168. As you know, this year, we have been getting serious about equipping the church with the necessary tools to follow Jesus throughout the week. Christianity is not about creating churchgoers; it's about building Jesus followers, and the calling of Jesus is to follow him in every part and every hour of our lives!

God has been preparing us for this time all year. These days, we aren't just taking our faith home, we are taking church home. And we are ready for it!

This week, Jimmy Rollins kicked off a new series. For the next several weeks, we are going to talk about how to be the church all week long. However, these are trying times for everyone. So, before we go any further, take some time to check in with your group by having everyone answer these questions.

Rate your week on a scale of 1-10. Why did you choose that number?

How was social distancing for you this week? In what ways is it getting easier, and in what ways is it becoming more difficult?

What are you most looking forward to doing once the shelter-in-place order is lifted?

G R O W

Read Acts 2:42-47

What stuck out to you most about this picture of the early church?

What is one valuable lesson the early church can teach us?

This week Jimmy brought us back to the early church. The passage you just read paints a beautiful picture of the church in its beginning stage. One of the key characteristics that should stick out to us is how innovative they were. They may not have had large buildings where they could meet, but that didn't stop them from both gathering together and taking the good news to the world.

The invitation is to do the same today! We are called to continue taking this message to the world and creating space to meet with other believers!

It may feel impossible to bring the good news to the world right now, but remember Jesus came to mobilize the Gospel. As Jimmy reminded us this week, "before the church was centralized in a building, it was mobilized in homes."

In the middle of this pandemic, we must catch this vision. Our buildings may be empty, but our church has never been more alive. We have an opportunity right now to mobilize and be the church.

How can you be the church for people this week? How can you create space (digitally) for people to continue to be together?

What does it look like for you to mobilize the Gospel?

M O V E

Re-Read Acts 2:42-47

What is one new thing that stuck out to you the second time you read this passage?

This weekend was such a special moment for us as a church. We got to join together with I5 City Church and be the body of Christ together in unity!

Unity was another critical characteristic of the early Church. Unity is essential to the Church. As the Psalmist writes, "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 131:1).

However, unity isn't a passive thing that we sit around and hope for; it's an active thing that we pray and work for! We stand still and hope we stumble into unity one day. If we want unity, we have to get to work.

Now more than ever, it's time for the Church to come together. We may not be able to be with each other in person, but that doesn't mean we isolate. Through technology, we have the opportunity to be together no matter where we live. And remember, as Jimmy reminded us this weekend, "Your neighbor may not be the one that lives next door to you. Your neighbor is the one that God is calling you to love next!"

Who is your neighbor? Who is God calling you to reach out to this week? What is one tangible way you can make a difference in their life?

Who is one person that has been essential to you during this pandemic? How can you be faithfully devoted to them this week?

Who is one person you haven't spoken to in a long time that you should catch up with this week?

Take-Home Assignment: Releasing Control (The God Box)

Grab a box (shoeboxes work great) and write "God" on the front of it. Put it somewhere close to your bed. Every night before you go to sleep, spend a few minutes writing out all the things you are worried or anxious about on notecards.

Take each notecard, one by one, and release your control by placing it into the God box. This is an act of surrender while trusting that God is much greater than any worry we may have.

Put the box up on a shelf and let it go for the night, and rest in the goodness and faithfulness of God. God is big enough to handle it!

P R A Y

We need prayer more than ever. Spend some time praying for each other as we are all in this together. If you are in a coed group, consider breaking off into two different calls to share more freely.

T O G O

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

- Acts 2:46-47