

THE BIG PICTURE

Week 9

BRBC Groups

April 18, 2021

Scripture | Acts 2:42-47, Romans 12

Ice Breaker |

1. When you think of church what do you think of?
2. What is one of your favourite memories of church?
1. What is something that stood out to you from this week's message? Do you have any questions about it?
2. Read Acts 2:42-47
3. Acts 2:42 is often thought of as the four essentials of church. The apostles teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer, they go together. You can't separate them or leave one out without damage to the whole. What would be the risk to a church if you were to leave some of these out, or overemphasize one over the other?
4. When you think of these four essentials of church, which do you think our church does well in? Which do you think we have an opportunity to grow in? And support your answer with why you think that way.
5. Other than these 4, how else based on this reading did the early church live out their faith?
6. Read Romans 12:1-8
7. Imagine yourself as someone who has never been to a church service, and you are just learning about Christianity for the first time. If Romans 12 was the only definition of worship you had heard, what would you think a church's worship service would look like? How might Paul's definition of worship in verses 1 and 2 differ from our understanding of worship?
8. Paul uses the imagery of a body and its parts as an analogy for the church, saying each part plays an important role. What would be the danger of a church thinking one part of the church body is more important than another part?
9. In verse 5 Paul says each member of the church belongs to each other. What do you think this means? How do you think this functionally works in a church locally and the church globally?
10. Everyone is made for church, but not every church is made for everybody. What are some essentials that you look for in a local church?
11. What part do you think you play in being the church?
12. Read verses 9-21
13. In the first section of Romans 12, Paul is giving instruction on how a community should function, in this section he is describing how an individual should behave. What stands out to you in this section? Are there any statements he makes that you struggle with? Any you think you are good at?

14. This section has two words in it that are the focus of everything Paul says, love (v9) and peace (v18). How are love and peace the basis for all the other instructions in this section?