

The church begins

Main point about the beginning of the church

Jesus didn't abandon the church to his disciples. He empowered them to act through God's Holy Spirit living within each believer to spread The Great Commission.

Read Acts 1:1-11

The church doesn't create its mission, Jesus commissions it.

What did Jesus command his disciples to do?

What does it mean to be a witness of Jesus?

Read Acts 2:1-4, 5-13, 14-21

The Holy Spirit empowered the disciples to speak known languages they previously could not.

With this context, when the disciples "spoke in tongues", does that imply intelligent communication or babbling/gibberish?

God pouring out his Holy Spirit was confirmation that he is accepting both Jews and non-Jews (Gentiles) to be his people (the church).

Read Acts 2:14-21

Based on this passage, do you think speaking in tongues is prescriptive (mandatory for all believers) or descriptive (a sign for a certain situation)?

What did Peter have to say about explaining this sign of speaking in tongues?

Read Acts 2:42-47

What are the 4 main things believers did?

How is authentic Christian community important for our individual spiritual growth?