



What was the first church like?

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.

⁴⁴And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Pentecost in Acts 2 when the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples, the number of followers of Jesus increased. These early Christians began to seek out fellowship with other believers who had been with Jesus.

- They met regularly to learn about Jesus from His first disciples
- They worshipped faithfully and celebrated the Holy Communion
- They shared their possessions generously with those in need
- They experienced wonderful acts of the Holy Spirit
- They were united in gratitude and joy

From this simple beginning grew the Church that we know today. The Church then as it is now, is not without faults. Nevertheless we see in the early Church of Acts (as well as in the New Testament Epistles) the Gospel priorities of the first followers.

The Vision and Mission of Hope EFC are drawn from these narratives and and what Scripture has revealed to us as God's purpose for His people.



VISION

We believe that God's Church exists to glorify Him and to enjoy Him forever

God destined us to be his adopted children through Jesus Christ because of his love. This was according to his goodwill and plan and to honour his glorious grace that he has given to us freely through the Son whom he loves.

Ephesians 1:5,6

MISSION

Worship the Lord

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1 Peter 2:9

Proclaim the Gospel

"Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.

Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Mark 6:15,16

Disciple the Body

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.

Matthew 28:19,20

Serve the Community

God has made us what we are, and in our union with Christ Jesus he has created us for a life of good deeds, which he has already prepared for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10





Starting out is a simple thing.

But continuing the journey will take a bit of doing. Join us as we discover God's purpose for our lives together.

HOPE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

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