

Living Church

Gabriel Wacholski - Jul, 6th

To live as Church and all the thing God has for us as Church, is important to understand if we are you Church in the fulness of the concept.

A. What is church?

Church (Ekklesia) means a gathering of people. As His gathering, He talks about the church as His Bride, His family, His flock, and His servants and friends. This differs from the idea of church being a place, building, club, or institution since we are not gathered by our tastes and culture.

B. A place to be brought in, built up, and sent out.

Hebrew 10:24

When we are saved and justified, becoming church, we have a desire for heaven, but God wants us to be here for sanctification, encouraging and helping each other for Jesus's return.

C. Relationship with Jesus is the source and support of the Church

1 Corinthians 12:12-14 / Ephesians 5:29-30

For us to be able to build each other up and send people to live God's purpose we need to have a relationship with Jesus daily. Live church without Jesus leads us getting hurt.

Key Verses

Matthew 16:13-20

"Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.""

Matthew 16:17-19 NIV

Start Talking: Spark Conversation

- 1) What is the first word that comes into your mind when the word is Church?
- 2) How was your first experience in a Church (as a community, not building)?
- 3) What does really make you feel you belong to a group of people?

Start Thinking: Deepen the Thought

- 1) Why do you think is so easy to be hurt by the Church and how can we prevent it?
- 2) What changes in the way we live if we understand that the Church is a family and not a club or an organization?

Start Sharing: Open Heart / Share Stories

- 1) Was there a time when you were helped be build up or encouraged by the Church and that helped you overcome a difficult time in your live?
- 2) Have you ever felt out of place or alone in a church? What helped (or could have helped) you overcome that?

Start Doing: Commit to Act

- 1) How can you start being Church and not only attending church? (smalgroups, church classes, discipleship, serving...)
- 2) Is there someone in your life who needs encouragement and with whom you can walk alongside?
- 3) What can you adjust in your routine to cultivate more consistently a relationship with Jesus?

Praying.

Dear Father, thank you for making us a Church so to build each other up in your waiting. Help us stay focus on You as we live and fill us with You in intimate relationship, so we can live Church the way You intended us to. Forgive for the times we hurt the Church, and we give forgiveness to those who hurt us in the way of being Church.

In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Announcements:

- Be part of our team - become a volunteer
- HOP every friday 7pm at Formation Center
- Give your offering through Contribua, it goes straight to The Way Ministry. Link: <https://contribua.pibcuritiba.org.br/produtos/paginaproduto/135>
- The Way Camp - First Batch on sale R\$ 340 (3x)