

[BACK TO THE BASICS]

Core Value: CONNECT PEOPLE

Part 2 – *Connect People*
Sunday, August 17, 2014

Core Values of CCCov:

Know God
Connect People
Share Christ

“The believer’s church is not simply a human institution or organization but a people whom God has called. Emphasis does not fall on buildings or hierarchical structures, but on a grace-filled fellowship and active participation, through the Holy Spirit, in the life and mission of Christ.” – Covenant Affirmations

Reflections on Acts 2:42-47: The church as institution (*gather*) & movement (*scatter*)

Church as INSTITUTION: Right Preaching; Right Administration of the Sacraments; Right Discipline (including leadership structure, programs for youth & families, finances, etc.)

Church as MOVEMENT: God’s people doing God’s work through God’s power.

Christians can build INSTITUTION but only God can sustain a MOVEMENT.

- INSTITUTION calls for _____;
- MOVEMENT calls for _____.

In the New Testament, the MOVEMENT sustained the INSTITUTION

“If the Holy Spirit had left the early church, 90% of what they were doing would have ceased. If the HS left the modern church today 90% of what we are doing would keep on going.” – A.W. Tozer

*“The local church is a community of regenerated believers who confess Jesus Christ as Lord. In obedience to Scripture they organize under qualified leadership, **gather** regularly for preaching and worship, observe the biblical sacraments of Baptism and communion, are unified by the Spirit, are disciplined for holiness, and **scatter** to fulfill the Great Commandment (love God & love your neighbor) and the Great Commission as missionaries to the world for God’s glory and their joy.”*

Questions for Reflection:

1. Read Acts 2:42-47. How would you describe this way of being the church? How is it different than your own experience?
2. Do you agree with Tozer’s quote (see above) about the modern church? Why or why not?
3. What, if anything, is holding you back from being part of the “movement” of the church (i.e. being used by the Holy Spirit to impact other people)?