

THAT
CHURCH

Knowing the church we want to be
and don't want to be helps us to be
the church the times require us to
be and God desires us to be.

**The local church is
the hope of the world.**

Therefore go and **make disciples**
of **all** nations, baptizing them...
and teaching them to obey
everything I have commanded
you.

Matthew 28:19-20 NIV

...On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout **Judea** and **Samaria**.

Acts 8:1 NIV

Then the church throughout Judea, **Galilee** and **Samaria** enjoyed a time of peace and was strengthened. Living in the fear of the Lord & encouraged by the Holy Spirit, it increased in numbers.

Acts 9:31 NIV

Then a voice told him, “Get up, Peter. Kill and **eat**.” “Surely not, Lord!” Peter replied. “I have never eaten anything impure or unclean.

Acts 10:13-15 NIV

The voice spoke to him a second time, “Do not call anything impure that God has made **clean**.”

Acts 10:13-15 NIV

...“You are well aware that it is against our **law** for a Jew to associate with or visit a Gentile. But God has shown me that I should not call anyone impure or unclean.

Acts 10:28 NIV

Then Peter began to speak: “I **now** realize how true it is that God does not show **favoritism**...

Acts 10:34 NIV

All the prophets testify about him
that everyone who **believes** in him
receives **forgiveness** of sins
through his name

Acts 10:43 NIV

The **circumcised believers** who had come with Peter were **astonished** that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out **even** on Gentiles.

Acts 10:45 NIV

So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers **criticized** him and said, “You went into the house of uncircumcised men and ate with them.”

Acts 11:2-3 NIV

When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, “So then, **even to Gentiles** God has granted repentance that leads to life.”

Acts 11:18 NIV

**They abandoned the theologies,
interpretations, and feelings that
created distance and made
enemies of the very people they
were called to reach.**

Now those who had been scattered by the persecution that broke out when Stephen was killed traveled as far as Phoenicia, Cyprus and **Antioch**, spreading the word **only among Jews**.

Acts 11:19 NIV

Some of them, however, men from Cyprus and Cyrene, went to **Antioch** and began to speak to **Greeks** also, telling them the good news about the Lord Jesus.

Acts 11:20 NIV

The Lord's hand was with them,
and a great number of people
believed and turned to the Lord.

Acts 11:21 NIV

News of this reached the church in Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch.

Acts 11:22 NIV

When he arrived and saw **what the grace of God had done**, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts.

Acts 11:23 NIV

**A move of God always moves us in
the direction of those far from God.**

The grace of God is bigger and
better than we think it is.

**The love of God tears down
walls; it never builds them.**