

why on earth... ?

a fresh way to talk
about life's big questions



Session sheet

why on earth... bother with the church?

People have lots of different ideas about the church.
This session explores the very earliest days of the church.
We look at why new people wanted to be a part of it,
and ask what a life-giving church today might look like.

Background Noise



Video Recap



Groups that work



Early church: shared faith



Early church: caring



New people joined



Bad experiences?



Being more alive

Text: Imperfect People

We saw that the early church got some things right, and lots of new people wanted to join them. But of course they weren't perfect.

That's because the church isn't made up of perfect people. It's made up of ordinary, imperfect people. But they're people who want to keep on growing, in two main areas:

- Faith in Jesus Christ.
- Love and care for each other.

Takeaway

Either:

- Imagine you and a group of friends have been asked to start a new church in your neighbourhood. What name would you give it, to tell people what's so special about it?
- Take time this week to list as many of the churches and Christian groups in your community as possible. Choose one of them, and find out more about it. Ideally, meet somebody who is a member of that church who can tell you more.

Pictures of Church



Family

'You are members of God's family.'
(Ephesians 2:19)



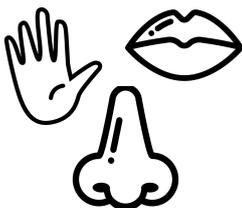
Grapevine

'Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit.'
(John 15:5)



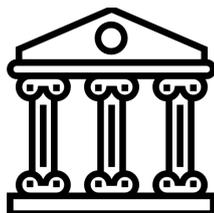
Lamp

'You are the light of the world – like a city on a mountain, glowing in the night for all to see. Don't hide your light under a basket! Instead, put it on a stand and let it shine for all.'
(Matthew 5:15/16)



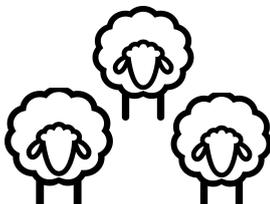
Parts of a Body

'Now all of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part.'
(1 Corinthians 12:27)



Temple

'And now God is building you, as living stones, into his spiritual temple.'
(1 Peter 2:5)



Flock of Sheep

'I am the good shepherd; I know my own sheep, and they know me.'
(John 10:14)