

## **We are the Church: Learning to be God's Kingdom People**

### **New Sermon Series**

Over the last few months, because of COVID, we've had to 'do church' very differently and this has led us to reflect on what it means to 'be the church' and what God might be wanting to teach us in this season about how we are to be his kingdom people in this place. This new sermon series, which we start on Sunday, helps us to reflect on some of the key messages that we have sensed God speaking to us about in the last few months and we pray that through this, God would continue to shape us and transform us to be his Kingdom People.

#### **Acts 2:42-47 Being a poeple of holy habits**

- 1)** Do you think God has been shaping or transforming you at all through the experiences of lockdown (e.g. changing your patterns of behaviour, realigning your priorities or values, revealing stuff in you that needs God to heal you)? Has your faith weakened or deepened in any way?

*Read the passage together from Acts 2*

- 2)** It begins. 'They devoted themselves....' What do you think it means to 'be devoted to God'? How might you rate yourself on a scale of 1-10 currently (where 0 = not devoted at all to 10 = Fully devoted to God).
- 3) Devoted to Daily Rhythms of Encountering God...**  
How have your daily 'holy habits' been over lockdown and how might God want you to take that forward and deepen them further? What do you find helps you to encounter God in prayer, scripture or worship?
- 4) Devoted to the fellowship or 'common life'...**  
Has your life group changed in anyway over lockdown? What have you learnt and what has been helpful?
- 5)** Watch the Fletchers' 'Praxis' video in full in which they talk about being a 'covenanted community' <https://youtu.be/x7Gxx71iWpY>  
What challenges you about their community values?  
What do you think we might learn from their way of doing community that we might put into practice here in Malvern? What could your life group do differently to deepen your 'common life' at this time?
- 6) Devoted to being a growing community...**  
Why do you think the Acts 2 church grew so rapidly?  
How have you seen our church grow (not just numerically) in the last 6 months?

Pause and be still as you reflect on what you've discussed. What is the one thing that God most wants you and your group to put into practice in the light of this session? Share that with each other.