

MYSTERY

DISCOVERING WHO GOD HAS CALLED US TO BE

Where is God's Temple?

SUMMARY:

Often, we may consider the church building we inhabit on Sunday mornings to be our definition of “church.” With the rows full and the music team playing, our idea of “church” may not surpass the two hours we spend locked into a message and songs centered around Jesus. This is certainly a part of what church looks like, and these weekend rhythms are important to our spiritual growth as Christ followers. However, we see the term “temple” throughout scripture. This word gives a fuller picture of what God’s Church is called to embody.

As we see in God’s Word, the temple is not just a physical, tangible structure in which God’s people are called to dwell. God calls His people to *be* His Church, to *be* His Temple. We’re His Temple because His Spirit dwells in us as Christ-followers, just like His Spirit dwelled in the Temple (see Exodus 25:8). We are to live in such a way that we are joining God on mission to make heaven and earth meet in holy union. Gathering as a body of believers in the rhythm of “church” is important but being God’s Church—being the holy dwelling place of the Spirit of God—is our ultimate call as His Temple. As His Temple, we are to be a people of holiness and mission.

QUESTIONS:

Upward

Read Exodus 25:8. Even before Jesus died on the cross and reconciled us to the Father, God’s desire was to dwell amongst His people. How does this change the way you see Him and His love?

Inward

What does it mean to have the Spirit of God dwell within you? How does this impact the way you see yourself?

Outward

How can you more fully live out your calling as God’s Temple? What does it look like to embody this in a practical way this week?