



**Week 1**  
**Study Guide**

**Open**

Read Matthew 16:15-18

Who do you say he is? This one question demands a response and the answer to that response requires an action. This Movement began and continues with these three words...Jesus is Lord. Share when you made that statement for the first time.

**Reflect**

Look at Acts 1:7-8. What must the disciples been thinking, ends of the earth. The idea of being a witness to Jerusalem and Judea made sense that was home for them. But Samaria? They hated the Samaritans and the farthest any of them had traveled was the Roman empire. How would they have felt? Why?

What would have happened if the disciples chose to not spread the gospel? What will happen if we choose to not share the gospel?

Look at Acts 2:36-39. This was the opening day of the local Church. This was Peter's first sermon and just a few weeks earlier Jesus was crucified. Many of them witnessed this and heard Jesus teach and now they are they are desperate to know the way of Christ. Share the last time you were desperate to know Christ and his ways. Where did you go? Who did you talk to?

**Close**

The church was never meant to be a building or an institution it was always a movement of God on the people. Acts 2:41 tells us 3000 were baptized that day. They didn't take a class or become members of an organization. They simply chose to follow the way of Christ. What do you think of when you think of Church.

Read Acts 2:42-47 how can we be this church found in Acts 2. What are your next steps?

**Discussion Questions**

What are some of the disadvantages of people view the church as a building or institution instead of a movement?

Was your first experiences attending church positive or negative for your faith journey? Explain?

What do you think is the mission of the Church?

After reading the first two chapter in Acts, what about the church that first day stands out to you?

If the church began as a movement, what are some way you see the church moving today?

What is one thing--large or small--you can do to be a part of continuing the movement Jesus started? What can this group do to support you?



