

INTRODUCTION

This week, we welcome back Pastor Chip as he kicks off a new four-week series entitled Church Is More Than. Chip focuses on how church isn't simply a location, institution or something to consume; it's a life-giving gathering of the people of God. When we gather regularly, we receive encouragement, grow in our faith and experience a piece of Heaven.

DISCUSSION

- 1. How do you define "church"? How does your definition differ from Pastor Chip's?
- 2. **Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26.** How might the Body of Christ be affected when we're not present to share the spiritual gifts God's given us?
- 3. **Read Hebrews 10:23-25.** Pastor Chip shares how he's been encouraged or challenged by conversations with fellow believers in the church's lobby. Share a time when God challenged or spoke to you through a fellow believer.
- 4. Discuss a time when you felt joy at church.

TAKE ACTION

- 1. This week, set aside a half hour to an hour to be with other people of God and then ask yourself: How does this person minister to me? How do I minister to their spiritual needs?
- 2. If you do not have a regular rhythm of going to church, make a plan to begin attending regularly, either in-person or online with other believers from your family or small group.
- 3. **Read Acts 2** [note verses 42-47] and **Romans 12:3-8** and prayerfully consider what your next steps are in your church. If you are not in a small group, consider joining one.

RESOURCES

- 1. "Five Benefits of Corporate Worship," an article by David Mathis
- 2. Explore opportunities at PLC to gather with others mid-week.
- 3. "The Soundtrack of Heaven," an article that explores the songs in Revelation