

Introduction

Over the past 8 years, Rock Pike has seen many things change & we've seen many people grow.

The church grew in size, produced fruit, was purged & is now going through another season of growth.

In this new season, it's my belief that GOD wants us to work on becoming **"A Biblical Church"** - collectively & individually.

This week we enter our fourth week in a series called: **"A Biblical Church"**

But what is **"A Biblical Church"**? How did the church get started? Who were the first members? What was its mission?

We continue to journey through the Book of Acts in this series – in search of **"A Biblical Church"** & asking a very specific question:

"Is Rock Pike Baptist Church a Biblical Church?"

Matthew 16:18 ~ And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

John 10:27 ~ My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

JESUS said, I will build my church, I know my church & my church knows me.

Review

Who wrote the book of Acts? *Luke, the beloved physician. ~ (Colossians 4:14)*

When was the book of Acts written? *Approximately A.D. 60-62*

Acts is the sequel to which Gospel? *The Gospel of Luke*

Week 1 Review

In order for Rock Pike to be **"A Biblical Church"** we must adhere to three main keys:

***The HOLY SPIRIT must: DIRECT
CONTROL
EMPOWER***

Week 2 Review

In order for Rock Pike to be **"A Biblical Church"** we must:

***The Church must: GATHER REGULARLY
SEEK GOD'S GUIDANCE
BE UNITED***



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Week 3 Review

In order for Rock Pike to be *“A Biblical Church”* we must:

The Church must: **MOVE TOWARDS TRUTH**
 MOVE AWAY FROM SIN
 MOVE TOWARDS PURPOSE

Before we get into our text, let’s ask GOD to show us how to become – “A Biblical Church”?

Acts 2:1-21

Last week we spent a little time digging deeper into Pentecost & that this was the arrival of the HOLY SPIRIT on the church as a whole.

You will recall, that last week we saw from GOD’s word that the HOLY SPIRIT had already been given to the disciples from JESUS directly – while JESUS appeared with the 11 in “The Upper Room” 8 days after HIS resurrection.

John 20:22 ~ And when he had said this, he breathed on *them*, and saith unto them,
Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

This is a strong indicator that the HOLY SPIRIT must be on men leading the church, before it will come on the church as a whole.

GODLY leaders are essential to “A Biblical Church”.

Once a GODLY leader is in place, praying & waiting on the LORD – then the Spirit of the LORD will eventually move!

Notice there “appeared” like fire on them, but they wasn’t consumed.

Moses had a similar encounter with the LORD, didn’t he?

Exodus 3:2 ~ And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.



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Just as Moses would be affected by the flame of fire at the burning bush, the pouring out of this fire would be the promise that John the Baptist preached about.

Luke 3:16 ~ John answered, saying unto *them* all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

Notice the HOLY SPIRIT wasn't spread out or distributed through the community.

HE was poured out on the church.

Jewish men from all over - devout men - had gathered for one of three feasts.

While gathered, once the HOLY SPIRIT was poured out on them, they would head back into their communities – faithful & with power.

This is what the church needs today – peopled who are:

1. BAPTIZED WITH FIRE

- ✝ Acts 2:3 ~ And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- ✝ Acts 2:4 ~ And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

2. DEVOTED

- ✝ Acts 2:5 ~ And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.

3. READY TO RECEIVE

- ✝ Acts 2:17 ~ And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:
- ✝ Acts 2:18 ~ And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:



4. READY TO SHARE

✝ Acts 2:21 ~ And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

CONCLUSION:

To be ***“A Biblical Church”*** – RPBC must:

BE AVAILABLE
BE EQUIPPED
BE FAITHFUL

Ask **GOD** to pour out on you, the Spirit, blessings & confidence to be ***“A Biblical Church”***.



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