

**Christian Community  
Callings on Your Life  
September 27, 2026  
Ephesians 4:1-16, Acts 2:42-47**

**Sermon Points:**

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**I. Redefining the Church: *Ekklesia* vs. Building**

- **People, Not a Place:** The word "church" originates from *kūrikón oikia* ("the Lord's house") describing a building, but biblical *ekklesia* means "the called-out assembly" of believers.
  - **Present Wherever Believers Gather:** Community is formed whenever two or three gather in Jesus' name (Matthew 18:20).
  - **Core Purpose:** The church exists to **love Christ, love one another, and reach the world.**
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**II. Building the Body of Christ (Ephesians 4:1–16)**

- **Living Worthy of the Calling:** Believers are called to maintain the unity of the Spirit through complete humility, gentleness, and patience (Ephesians 4:1–6).
  - **Equipping for Shared Ministry:** Leadership roles (APEST) are given by Christ to equip *all* believers for works of service so the entire body is built up—making ministry a collective "group effort".
  - **Maturity and Transformation:** Experiencing genuine inclusion shifts believers from feeling like outsiders into God's household, protecting the community from spiritual deception and fostering growth into Christ-like maturity (Ephesians 4:14–16).
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**III. The Biblical Norm of Fellowship: *Koinonia* (Acts 2:42–47)**

- **An Essential Calling:** True fellowship (*koinonia*) is vital and non-optional for every Christian.
  - **The Early Church Model:** Believers devoted themselves to teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread, prayer, and radical generosity (Acts 2:42–47).
  - **Gathering Beyond Sunday:** True community requires actively engaging beyond Sunday worship through prayer, small groups, and mutual service.
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**IV. Heart Examination & Call to Commitment**

- **Building Up vs. Causing Hurt:** Believers must reflect on whether their attitudes or absence contribute to building up or fracturing Christ's body.
- **Lavishing Christ's Love:** Every member is called to show hospitality and grace so that others feel cared for, included, and seen.

**Personal Notes**

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