

Being Committed to Jesus' Master Project

Jesus boldly declared that He would build His **'Church'** - His **'master project.'**

Matthew 16:18 (niv) "And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.**"

Gk word for **church** "ekklesia." Jesus built His own *ekklesia* (church) of *'His called out ones.'*

Colossians 1:13-14 (gnt) **He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us safe into the kingdom of His dear Son,** ¹⁴ **by whom we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven.**

Matthew 16:18 "I will build my Church..."
Jesus' Church, the Body of Christ globally.

In *Matthew 18:15-17* Jesus refers to the Church in its local sense – the local church.

Jesus declared His Church both globally and locally would be a force of strength!

The book of Acts tells the story of the beginning and expansion of the Church.

Despite 2000+ years of persecution, hatred, imprisonment, and slander, **the Church has stood the test of time and still stands today.**

The Church is central to outworking Jesus' awesome plan of redemption - **the Church is the hope of the world.**

Defining Jesus' Master Project

"The Church is a community of Christ-followers empowered by the Holy Spirit to participate in God's mission to the world."

Jesus is committed to His Church.

Ephesians 5:25 And you husbands must love your wives with the same love Christ showed the church. He gave up His life for her.

**Are you committed to Jesus' master project?
How?**

i. To PROTECT the unity of our Church family

Romans 15:5 (niv) May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus.

Always act in love toward one another

1 Peter 1:22 (nlt) You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.

Consider others first

Philippians 2:3 (nlt) Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

Supporting the Church leadership

Hebrews 13:17 (erv) Obey your leaders. Be willing to do what they say. They are responsible for your spiritual welfare, so they are always watching to protect you. Obey them so that their work will give them joy, not grief. It won't help you to make it hard for them.

ii. To PARTICIPATE in the outreach and mission of our Church

Acts 1:8 (niv) But when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, you will receive power and will tell people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Share your testimony about who Jesus is in your life whenever possible.

Mark 16:15 (gw) Then Jesus said to them, "So wherever you go in the world, tell everyone the Good News.

Invite the unchurched to attend.

Luke 14:23 (niv) So his master said, 'Go out into the country lanes and behind the hedges and urge anyone you find to come, so that the house will be full.

Warmly welcome those who visit a church gathering.

Romans 15:7 (niv) Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

iii. To SERVE in the ministry of our Church

1 Corinthians 12:27 (tlb) All of you together are the one body of Christ, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it.

To discover and to use our gifts and talents for the benefit of others.

1 Peter 4:10 (tlb) God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings.

To be motivated to serve with an unselfish heart

Philippians 2:4-6 (niv) Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.

To be available to be equipped to serve in your gifting to fulfil your God-given calling.

***Ephesians 4:11-12** (nlt) Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.*

To attend church and other gatherings regularly.

***Hebrews 10:25a** (niv) Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another...*

***(AMP)** not forsaking our meeting together [as believers for worship and instruction], as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another...*

To live a God honouring life.

***Philippians 1:27** (gnt) The important thing is that your way of life should be as the gospel of Christ requires.*

To give the Lord's tithe and other offerings regularly.

***1 Corinthians 16:2** (tlb) On every Lord's Day each of you should put aside something from what you have earned during the week, and use it for this offering. The amount depends on how much the Lord has helped you earn.*

Will you commit to putting down your spiritual roots into our church family here at ACC?