

Sunday Message: January 16, 2022

Mission & Vision | Defining Church| Danny Lamonte

Act 2:37-47

Passage Exploration Questions

The primary translation our pastors use on Sunday morning is the ESV. You may find it helpful to use the ESV along with corresponding notes in the ESV Study Bible when reflecting on the questions below.

1 Read I Peter 2:9-10. What is the significance of each statement below in terms of relationship with God and how do they inform our understanding of who we are as God's people in the Family of God - His Church?

- a) a chosen people
- b) a royal priesthood
- c) a holy nation
- d) a people for God's own possession
- e) a people who have received mercy

2 Read Acts 2:37-42. Who are in God's universal church and what are the central activities/core functions of a healthy church family? Describe how each is carried out today at First Free Church.

- a) devoted to the apostles' teaching
- b) devoted to the fellowship
- c) devoted to the breaking of bread
- d) devoted to prayer

Application & Spiritual Formation Questions

1 How do the aforementioned passages, along with Danny's message, shape your understanding and definition of the church?

2 From Danny's sermon, discuss how a biblical/integrated view compares to a traditional view. What do you agree or disagree with? In what ways do you need to rethink "church"?

3 According to Danny, what is the purpose of the Sunday Morning Service and how does it compliment all that we do at First Free Church through ministry opportunities? What expectations or assumptions have you been making about your experience of worship on Sunday mornings?

4 Lastly, as you think about the role of Sunday morning and general participation in the body of Christ, how will God use these to help you grow in Christ? In what ways do different ministry environments work in tandem to help you grow along with the Spirit's work in your life?