

## A Model Church - cont.

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- *Connected* - they worshipped together with “one accord” in united fashion as they praised God together (2:46-47).

The solution today for improper and empty worship is thorough preparation, participation, and passion.

### **A Learning Church (Acts 2:42; 5:42)**

Third, the Jerusalem church is a pattern today of how to be knowledgeable of God’s word. The problem today among some Christians is a lack of Bible knowledge (Hosea 4:6). When you examine the local church in Jerusalem, you find that their study focused on the right:

- *Person* - they focused on the teaching of Jesus (2:42; 5:42).
- *Plan* - they heard teaching “every day” (5:42).
- *Place* - they heard teaching publicly and privately (5:42).

The solution today for a lack of Bible knowledge is to make time for Bible reading, study, and learning (Acts 17:11; 1 Timothy 4:13). - *Chris Reeves*

## - Scripture of the Week -

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*“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God afore prepared that we should walk in them” -  
Ephesians 2:10*

Think about this: Why am I a Christian? I am a Christian, in part, because God wants me to be doing good works. So, I will be busy doing those good works this week.

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# THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

# Jerusalem: A Model Church (Part I)

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Models, patterns, and blueprints are important. We use them in all kinds of applications in our life. We use patterns for sewing, manufacturing, building, etc.

God gave the Israelites a pattern to follow in building the tabernacle and he expected them to follow it. Exodus 25:40 reads:

*And see that thou make them after their pattern, which hath been showed thee in the mount.*

In the New Testament, Paul wrote to Timothy and encouraged him to follow a pattern. 2 Timothy 1:13 reads:

*Hold the pattern of sound words which thou hast heard from me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.*

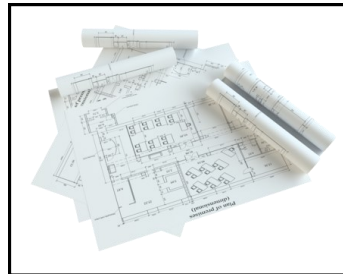
Today, people are looking for church models to follow. They say, "Look at how such-and-such church is growing ... Let's be like them!" But the Lord built his church and we need to follow his church that is modelled in the New Testament (Matthew 16:18).

One such church to follow in the New Testament is the local church at Jerusalem. They were a divine model of the Lord's church and you can read

about them in Acts 2-12. When you read about them, you find several commendable traits worth following today.

## A Converted Church (Acts 2:37-41)

First, the Jerusalem church is a pattern of what it means to be truly converted to Christ. The problem today in some places is a lack of true conversion among church members. They are "religious", but they are not really converted to the Lord. They are "pew warmers" on Sunday, but they are not devoted to the Lord during the week.



When you examine the local church in Jerusalem, you find that their conversion resulted from the following:

- *Right communication* - they were converted because of plain, gospel preaching (2:14-36).
- *Right conviction* - they were converted because they were truly pricked in the heart (2:37).

- *Right conditions* - they were converted because of their genuine repentance and baptism (2:38-41).

The solution today to unconverted church members is Bible-based, gospel preaching and genuine gospel obedience (Romans 1:14-16).

## A Worshipping Church (Acts 2:42, 46-47)

Second, the Jerusalem church is a pattern of what it means to truly worship God. The problem today in some places is a loss of focus on true worship in the assembly. Church members are often bored, distracted, or just "going through the motions".

When you examine the local church in Jerusalem, you find that their worship was:

- *Continual* - they continued steadfastly in their worship and did not quit easily (2:42).
- *Concentrated* - they had "singleness of heart" as they focused on the right way to worship given them by the apostles (2:42, 46).

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