







10 KEYS TO A STRONG CHURCH

STRONG IN GOD'S PRESENCE BY GOD'S TRUTH JOHN 4:23-24

WEEK 1

The Strong Church

What is the church? The church is a diverse people united in faith around the one true God and His Son, Jesus Christ. An eternal people, fully functioning, Christ radiating, spiritual gift using, culture transforming, built up, grown up, unified up, bound up in love as a force of gospel truth and love in God's Almighty hand. Yet, the church is often weak in what it should be strong in and strong in what it should be weak in. As we begin this sermon series, we pray that we will learn what it means to become a strong church.

(10 min) PRAY

As a Life Group, ask the Lord to convict your hearts as we strive to become more like Jesus as a church.

(25 min) TIME TO CONSIDER

- 1. As a Life Group, take some time to read John 4:23-24. What does it mean for the church to be strong? And why does the church need to be strong?
- 2. What are some of the characteristics of a strong church that Pastor Derek mentioned on Sunday?

"But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

John 4:23

3. How is the presence of Jesus experienced in the community of Christ?

"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."

John 14:23

4. What are some ways that we engage in God's truth?

We don't worship the Bible. We worship the God who is revealed through the Bible. The Bible reveals God and His works and guides us in our experience of Him.

EXPERIENCING THE SPIRIT TOGETHER: As a Life Group, take the next 15-20 minutes to pray and enter into a time of encountering the Holy Spirit. Remove distractions as best you can, and start by acknowledging the presence of God's Holy Spirit among you. Pray that God would show you as a Life Group how you can grow in becoming a strong church.

WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE: Jeremiah 29:13 "You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart."