

Why a Church at all?

Jesus didn't write a book. He gathered people.

In short. Jesus didn't leave a book; He gathered a people, with the Twelve and Peter at their head.¹ The Church is His Body, holy because of Him, full of sinners always in need of purification.^{2,3}

Key points

- Church means an assembly called together by God.⁴
- Jesus chose the Twelve with Peter at their head.¹
- The Church is holy and always in need of purification.³

Try this, this week

1. **Read Matthew 16:13–19.** Notice who asks the question and who answers.
2. **Read Acts 2:42–47.** That's the first parish.
3. **Name one thing** you'd want from a church if it were real.

“I also tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my assembly, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.”

Matthew 16:18, World English Bible

Common questions

Remember: Jesus didn't leave a philosophy. He left a family.

Sources

1. CCC 765
2. CCC 787
3. CCC 827
4. CCC 751

Quotation above: Matthew 16:18, World English Bible. Catechism: official text on vatican.va.

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