

ACTS OF HEAVEN

ACTS OF HEAVEN: BIG CHURCH VS. BIG PEOPLE

Welcome back to our Acts of Heaven series. Last weekend, if you missed it, we had a fire in our sanctuary. And it wasn't just because our A/C needed some repairs. Our fiery messenger, Pastor Theresa, spoke about the only way we're going to change this world for Jesus and his values and his ways is by being connected to the power of the source of radical change. And who is that, Da Good An Spesho Spirit, the Holy Spirit, who without his power, our best efforts to bring heaven on earth in our families, workplaces, and even in our own lives would be unsuccessful, wasted energy, poho at best. Two weeks ago, Pastor Mark introduced this series by giving us the meaning of the word for Church that Jesus used. Remember the Greek word? It's the "Ekklesia", not just a safe spiritual gathering, but a world changing, radical institution, ever-growing force, as he shared, to "Heaven-ize" the world.

This week we learn that "Heaven-izing" the world is not just the job of the paid few, but of everybody! And if you said Yes to Jesus, he calls you and me to be Agents of Aloha, Agents of Jesus Christ Aloha to our world, bringing the good news of our King Jesus and his ways, in other words, heaven-izing the world around us. Are you ready to hear and respond to Jesus' call on your life to reach out through the power of Da Good An Spesho Spirit to change the places God has put you in? If so, say, "I'm in, Pearl".

I'd like you to leave our gathering today with these two challenges. The first: "To continue". And the second, and dis one local kine expression: "Stay Tight With Him Erytime".

For this series, we are tracking how the 1st church GREW Strong after Jesus left the earth, in the book of Acts, and how the good news went out in force. And when we read the about 1st century Ekklesia, it's hard to see how we get the way church is defined today. When we say church, people think church buildings, church programs, church worship services. What kine church you go? Yeah, get men and women ministry, sports, outreach, small groups, etc. People don't naturally think of the kind of People making up the gathering. We think Programs.

So if someone asks you, what is the church, your answer should be "We are the church".

What's the mission of this Ekklesia again? To heaven-ize the world, to bring heaven and heaven's values on earth, by sharing the good news of Jesus to others, and making more followers of Jesus, as Jesus commands us to do, make disciples of all nations. And that's the mission for all who follow Jesus today!

How many of you are followers of Jesus? Raise you hands. That's your call! Tell the person next to you, You're an Agent of Aloha!

How did the mission of the 1st Century Church expand from these early followers. How did those early followers experience growth?