



God's BIG Build

Title: Follow the Designer's plans
Date: Sunday 14th January 2018
Reading: Acts 2:41-47

When you open up a new gadget...

Are instructions always needed? How beneficial are they when you get stuck or something goes wrong? What are the consequences of only using instructions when things go wrong? What are the benefits of using an instruction manual? What are the benefits of having someone else show you what to do? How do you know if they are teaching you correctly?

Building a community of faith, hope and love

Besides the Bible, what influences the community/church we/you are building? Are these all bad influences? How do we ensure we are not simply building a church community that matches/fits our likes and dislikes?

The Acts 2 church

They devoted themselves to...
the apostles teaching (God's Word)
fellowship (loving one another)
breaking bread (communion and meals together)
prayer (together)
practical help
praising/thanking God
... and the Lord added to their number daily
those being saved

The power of a community like this is incredible – a community that loves, has purpose and is powered by God.

This is a community that can exist in every cultural setting around the world and is not dependant on buildings, staff, big numbers of people, economics, race, gender, etc. What does limit or stop communities like this from growing?

Build with scaffolding

Maintaining and running the structures and traditions of 'the church' (as an organisation) can sometimes get in the way of actually building a community of faith, hope and love (God's Big Build). How does viewing structures, traditions and programmes as 'scaffolding' – there to enable true growth – impact how you engage with LHFC? Are there parts of the LHFC scaffolding you would tweak/change – why/why not?

**The church is not 'them out there' but you and me.
What part(s) of God's plan do you personally need to follow more closely?**

