



Who? What? How?

Core Commitments of Intown Community Church

Session 1: We are a Christian Church

Goal for this session: *to experience supernatural change as we hear what it means to find our identity in Christ.*

...The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch [in Syria].

Acts 11:26

Questions for discussion

- When you hear the word "Christian," what does it mean to you?
- In today's culture, what do you think people understand this word to mean, especially if they don't identify themselves as Christians?
- What do you think it meant to be called a "Christian" in first century Antioch—a Greco-Roman city where Judaism was a small minority?

Loving our community to life by pursuing gospel restoration



What does it mean to say that we are a Christian church?

- Membership vows used by Intown and our sister churches
 - Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving his displeasure and without hope except through his sovereign mercy?
 - Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered in the gospel?
 - Do you resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes a follower of Christ?
 - Do you promise to support the church in its worship and work to the best of your ability?
 - Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the church, promising to promote its purity and peace?

- What is the gospel referred to and reflected in these vows?
 - An excerpt from Intown's mission statement: *"The gospel is the 'good news' that the most glorious purposes of God's heart are revealed, fulfilled, and accessible in the gift and sacrifice of his Son, Jesus Christ. The gospel transforms the hearts and minds of individuals, creates a new type of community among those who embrace it, and empowers us to serve our neighbors, our culture, and our world."*

To say that we are a Christian church means we are people who have said "yes" to Jesus. He is the fundamental reality that shapes who we are. He is the most important thing about us.

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