

Let's go forward together.

Acts 2:45-46 *And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,*

Objection: But they didn't build a building!

Response 1: The early Jewish believers already had a building: The Temple in Jerusalem.

### Early church gathering locations

- Big group: Temple – Acts 2:46a attending the temple together
- Small group: Homes – Acts 2:46b *and breaking bread in their homes,*

Response 2: Both large and small group gatherings moved the mission forward. For us, buildings are not the mission, but buildings serve a crucial and strategic role in helping move the mission forward and accommodating what God is already doing.

- *Selling + distributing + attending + breaking bread + receiving – Acts 2:45-46*

### Steps forward

- 1) Strengthen what we have
  - a. Alleviate parking challenges.
  - b. Boost traffic flow.
  
- 2) Build what we need
  - a. Dedicated children's building for the next generation.
  - b. One check-in location.
  
- 3) So that we'll be prepared to continue going forward
  - a. Maximize our Gospel outpost on Okeechobee Blvd.
  - b. Be prepared to go and serve where God calls us in the future.

### What's next?

1. Enjoy the moment.
2. Commit to hearing what God wants you to do in this season.
3. Be an ambassador of accurate information.
4. Consider that God would have you in a key role in *Forward*.

“Eternal Investments Let’s face it: There aren’t many things you can do in this world that really last. Most of the things we give so much of our time and energy to die out even before we do. And the ones that outlive us usually endure, at most, for a generation or two—and then our efforts are forgotten. *“Everything is meaningless . . .”* said Solomon, the writer of Ecclesiastes. “No one remembers the former generations, and even those yet to come will not be remembered by those who follow them” (Ecclesiastes 1:2, 11). Well, that may be true in ordinary human terms. But in God’s greater world, things have a lot longer shelf life—that is, an eternal one! It’s worth letting this sink in: The only things that last forever besides God and his heavenly kingdom are people. No, we can’t take any of our possessions, accomplishments, or trophies with us. But we can take our family members. Our sons and daughters. Our grandkids. Our parents. Our

siblings. Our aunts and uncles. Our cousins. Our friends. Our coworkers. Our neighbors. Even the guy who fixes our car, or the folks who dry-clean our clothes. Every one of them was created in the image of God, and they were made to know him. But they need to be reached. They need to hear the Good News, and perhaps the story of how God reached and redeemed you. They need spiritual answers and some assistance in putting the puzzle pieces together.”  
– Mark Mittelberg, *Contagious Faith: Discover Your Natural Style for Sharing Jesus with Others*<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Mark Mittelberg, *Contagious Faith: Discover Your Natural Style for Sharing Jesus with Others* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2021), 207.