

April 24, 2016
Next Step Series
Part Three: From the Crowd to the Congregation
Adam Donyes

Note: Your question writer was unable to download the notes this week with all the quotes, scriptures and points. I hope these questions, from just a few notes taken, will be useful to you. I didn't get the ten or more points from I John, all of which would have been good to discuss. Question 4 provides a way to interact with that material for those who want to take the time.

1. A certain Biblical Studies professor never joined a congregation, believing he was a part of the church universal and membership with the gathering he attended wasn't necessary. While we are indeed part of the church universal, why is membership in a specific congregation important?
2. Was it hard for you to move from the crowd to the congregation? Or have you?
3. How have you felt the Holy Spirit work in your life?
4. Adam said our assurance is when we accept Jesus as Lord. He said we can find evidence of our salvation all through the five chapters of I John. John is writing to comfort the church after so many left because of false doctrines about Jesus and salvation. In his letter he tells the church how we can know we belong to God. Adam gave a long list, which included "walk in the light, rather than darkness." Give each person in your group a chapter from I John and have them find and share verses that tell us what it is to belong to God.
5. Tell about your baptism experience.
6. How are we sometimes guilty of dissecting our Sunday morning worship services? Do you attend church asking God what he can teach you today through his servants? What has God revealed to you in the three Next Step sermons so far?
7. Adam said we make time for what is most important to us. Besides eating and sleeping, and working at your job, what do you spend an hour a day doing?
8. It is said that everyone has gifts that can be used in the church. What are your gifts?
9. Adam said we are created to give (or serve), not take. In what ways do you give to the Kingdom of God and in the name of Jesus? What ways do you give to the ministry of Woodland Hills?