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# Study 3

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## What does a healthy Church look like?

### Get Talking

1. Think of three different types of churches in and around Durbanville. If you went along to a typical Sunday gathering, how would they differ from each other? What might seem to be important? What could be missing?
2. Think back over the last two weeks' studies. What have we seen so far about the worth and essence of the church?

### Investigate – The Priorities of the Church

3. Read Acts 2:36-41. In this conclusion of Peter's famous Pentecost sermon, what do we discover about how the Christian church began? What was the message and the mechanism that brought into being?
4. Read Acts 2:42-47. What did the early church devote themselves to (v42)?
5. Spend some time unpacking each of the priorities that are mentioned. What does each one refer to? Why was it so important?

6. Why are each of these important for us to prioritise today? How does the church in our own day measure up against these essentials?
  
7. How can we ensure that these priorities are protected in our own church?

### Investigate – The Practices of the Church

8. Read Acts 2:42-47 again. How would you describe the atmosphere or mood among these early Christians? Why was it like that?
  
9. What are some of the practices and habits mentioned here that characterised these first Christians?
  
10. Which of these do you find most striking? Why?
  
11. How can we become more like the early church in these areas?
  
12. What impact did the church have on the world? Why do you think this was?
  
13. What do you think God might be calling us to do differently? How could you contribute to this?