

## The Three C's of a Comeback Church

Dear Friend:

Many of you know I was born in Columbus, lived in Linden until age 8, then "grew-up" in Grove City. I can remember back before there was an I-270, some of you can too. Since there was not an I-270 our main travel route into the west side of Columbus was 3-C highway. I heard stories as I grew up about how my dad use to take 3-C to Cleveland Brown football games. As a teenager I remember using 3-C to get to our church on the Hilltop, go to Central Point Shopping Center, and go to watch the Columbus Jets (for those of you under age 50 they're now called the Clippers). In the summertime I also biked on 3-C to go visit my friends who lived near West High.

3-C, the State Route, reminds me about 3 C's in the Bible. The 3 C's in Acts 2:42-47. In this passage I find 3 important facts about what all comeback churches have in common. Acts 2, is about Pentecost and the first church. Do not think of the first church as a building but as a very large group of Christians meeting at the Temple and as small groups meeting in homes. The 3 C's the first church had, and we need to have are...First, the first church had commitment. Acts 2:42 says: "They devoted themselves to..." in other words, they were committed. Committed to what? To the apostles teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and meeting everyday (they were committed to consistency). The second C stands for commUNITY. Out of their commitment true community developed. Verse 45b says: "They gave to everyone who had need". They sacrificed for one another. Any church that is healthy needs to sacrifice for the good of others. The third C stands for core. The apostles formed the core of the church. Every church has a core, and in almost every church that core is about 20% of the attenders. However, that number is too low and can lead to burnout. Right now, Franklin Church has a core of 8-12 people. Pray for an increase and become a part of that increase! Commitment - CommUNITY - Core, the 3 C's of a comeback church!

In Christ's Love,  
Pastor Mike

Prayer: Dick Fisher (kidney blood clots) Cathy Cooley (heart transplant), Praise: Midge Gathers no longer cancer in the lung. Praise: We exceeded the Building Fund by about \$5,000

Events: Easter Egg Volunteers needed March 30-31