**You Are the Church**

[1 Corinthians 12:27](https://www.bible.com/en-GB/bible/111/1co.12.27)

You probably grew up thinking of the church as something you go to. Like it’s an institution or organization. Like it’s something you either belong to or don’t.

Well, think again.

**You don’t GO to church. You ARE the church.**

That’s actually the radical implications of what it means for Jesus to be at work in you. He made you the church.

That’s exactly what the Apostle Paul was describing when he wrote in [1 Corinthians 12:](https://www.bible.com/en-GB/bible/111/1co.12.27)[27](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+12%3A27&version=NLT). He even took it a step further when he said “Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.”

Pretty amazing isn’t it? *You*. As in you of feeble faith. You who aren’t 100% sure of things. You who often gets it wrong. You who offers the best of what you have but still feels like it comes up a bit short.

But that’s the powerful part of God’s grace. You probably have a picture in your mind of how much better you need to be for God to use you. But the powerful part of scripture is this: God doesn’t use perfect pictures; he uses broken people.

I personally am completely excited about the launch of Go For It at The Ridge. You may be tempted to think of this as something The Ridge is doing. Well, that’s both right and wrong.

After all, *The Ridge can’t*:

* Have your next door neighbor over for a BBQ
* Strike up a friendship with that person at the gym you see every Thursday morning
* Love your unlovable cousin
* Throw a backyard party for the single moms in your neighborhood

But you can.

And when you do that, *you* are the church. And when all of us do that … well, that’s a glimpse of God’s church at work.

**So go be the church**. Extend the love of Jesus to people you’re scared to love. Be a good neighbor. Be a good friend. Love people. You might be amazed at what God does.

Because you are the church. You really are.

**BOTTOM LINE**

**You don’t go to church. You are the church.**

**LIVE**

Imagine what might change in a year, or even in a month, when you help ONE person you love find the God who loves them and extend the grace and kindness that so many long for yet so few ever experience.

**PRAY**

Today, pray for courage. Because what’s standing between you and impact is likely a little fear.*God, help me get over my fear of making some new friendships. Help me to move out of my comfort zone and extend the grace that you’ve extended to me.*