



**Purpose driven community**  
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**18 June 2017**



# Introduction

- Every community must discover why it exists
- This will shape what and how it does things
- What is the purpose of the Christian community on earth?



# 1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you **may declare** the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.



# Psalm 96:3

**Declare** his glory among the nations, his marvellous deeds among all peoples.

Verse 7

**Ascribe** to the LORD, all you families of nations, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

# What is the meaning of Ascribe?

- To credit
- To assign
- To link something to someone or something
- To make a connection



# Psalm 96:10

Say among the nations, “The LORD reigns,” The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity



## Acts 3:12 – 13a

When Peter saw this, he said to them: “Fellow Israelites, why does this surprise you? Why do you stare at us as if by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk? The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus.

## Acts 3:15 - 16

You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this. By faith in the name of Jesus, this man whom you see and know was made strong. It is Jesus' name and the faith that comes through him that has completely healed him, as you can all see.



## Acts 6:2

So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables.



# Acts 6:7

So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.



# How can we effectively Ascribe?

- Words and actions in perfect harmony

“Actions without words can be as futile as words without actions”



# Acts 6:8

Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people.



# Acts 6:10

But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.



## Acts 7:1 - 2

Then the high priest asked Stephen, “Are these charges true?” To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me! The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham while he was still in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Harran.

## Acts 7: 56 - 58

Look, he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him.

## Acts 7: 59 - 60

While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “LORD, do not hold this sin against them.”



*Amen*