

**real
comm
unity**

30 A.D.: The Upper Room, Temple Courts, Homes

¹³When [the apostles] arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying . . . ¹⁴They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

Acts 1:12-14 (NIV)

⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.

Acts 2:46 (NIV)

168 A.D.

Rome, The Trial of Justin Martyr



“I have been living above the baths for the entire period of my sojourn at Rome . . . and I have known no other meeting place but here. Anyone who desired could come to my residence, and I would give to him the words of truth.”

250 A.D.

Dura-Europas, First Known Dedicated Christian Church Building, Converted from Multiple Homes



258 A.D.

Alexandria, Greece

The Church Gathered in Cemeteries on the Outskirts of Town



306 A.D.

Constantine, the First Emperor to make Christianity the national religion, established the first construction projects of dedicated church buildings



Real Community

A Gospel-centered group of people that form a local body and live by the power of the Word and Spirit

8First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. 9God, whom I serve in my spirit in preaching the gospel of his Son, is my witness how constantly I remember you 10in my prayers at all times; and I pray that now at last by God's will the way may be opened for me to come to you. 11I long to see you so that I may impart to you some spiritual gift to make you strong—

Romans 1:8-13 (NIV)

¹²that is, that you and I may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. ¹³I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that I planned many times to come to you (but have been prevented from doing so until now) in order that I might have a harvest among you, just as I have had among the other Gentiles.

Romans 1:8-13 (NIV)

**Real Community
Was Not Marked By
Physical Presence,
But by Prayer**

**Real Community
Was Not Marked By
Group Strength, But
Individual Strength**

**Real Community
Was Not Marked By
Natural Connections,
But Spirit Power**