

# **FAITH** **UNDER** **CONSTRUCTION**

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STUDY GUIDE WITH  
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## EPISODE 7:

### How To Find the Right Church for Me.

*On this episode of Faith Under Construction, Rasool Berry and Christin Thorpe talk with Troy Evans about finding the right church.*

*Troy “PE” Evans is a Detroit native. He grew up in the Church of God in Christ denomination (COGIC) but has planted many churches around the country through the Nitrogen Urban Network. Troy Evans is known for breaking the mold of traditional church in helping the church become a home for people in urban settings.*

1. Rasool Berry says finding a church home can be a make-or-break experience.
  - a. What makes a church feel like “home” to you? Does your current church reflect that? Where does it fall short?
2. According to Barna’s research, people consider various factors when choosing a church, “including preaching style, music, community, and the church’s relevance to their lives. Millennials in particular often prefer classic church settings over trendy ones, and value a sense of belonging and deeper meaning over superficiality.”
  - a. What qualities do you look for in a church and why? What does your church offer that helps you connect?
3. How do you discern whether a church is actually helping you grow spiritually versus just being a place you enjoy attending?
4. Read: Acts 2:42-47 (day of Pentecost when the church begins) and Acts 6:1-7.
  - a. How do these Bible passages show how the church is supposed to care for its members? What does this look like in the modern church?
5. Christin Thorpe shares that according to Barna trends in the Black church, the number one issue people have with the church is its approach to money.
  - a. Read: Acts 2:45 and 2 Corinthians 9:7.
  - b. What has shaped your perspective on giving? How do you discern the difference between generosity that is Spirit-led and giving that feels pressured or harmful?
6. Evans asks, “When it comes to your church, are you inspecting or serving?”
  - a. Where do you see yourself in that question? How has your posture—whether serving or critiquing—shaped your experience in the church?
7. The speakers discuss the complexity of leaving a church and how it affects relationships and community.
  - a. Have you ever wrestled with whether to stay or leave a church? What made that decision difficult? What wisdom would you offer someone facing that same choice?

8. “We have a cancel-culture tendency to cut people off if they hurt us” —Berry.
  - a. Read: Colossians 3:12-14 (ESV), Leviticus 19:18, and Luke 6:27.
  - b. What value do these Scriptures highlight in persevering through relationships? What is the difference between letting go of something that is no longer serving you versus cutting someone off?
9. “You have your whole life to live as a Christian; it’s not just Sunday” —Thorpe. A church isn’t limited to a building. It’s also wherever you want to build a Christian community.
  - a. What other spaces in your own life do you think you could build a solid Christian community? (For example, it could be in your home, a group, the gym, your neighborhood, social media, the salon or barber shop, etc.)

#### 10. Closing Prayer:

Take a few moments to pray together for the church. You may want to pray for:

**Fellowship** — that your church would be a place of genuine connection and belonging

**Stewardship** — that resources would be handled with wisdom and integrity

**Support** — that people would be cared for in both practical and spiritual ways

**Love** — that the church would reflect Christ’s love to one another and the community

**Perseverance** — that the church would remain faithful through challenges

Invite a few people to pray out loud or spend time in silent prayer together.