

## Acts 2:42–47

### Description of the Early Church

- They devoted themselves to . . . (42) (Actions) (present active, continually)
  - The apostles teaching
  - The fellowship
  - Breaking of bread-
    - Lord's supper and fellowship meal (Part of worship)
    - **Acts 20:7**<sup>7</sup> On the first day of the week, when we were gathered together to break bread, Paul talked with them, intending to depart on the next day, and he prolonged his speech until midnight.
  - Prayer
    - **Matthew 28:20**<sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”
    - **Hebrews 10:24–25**<sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- Awe came upon every soul (43)
  - A deep awe rested on the whole community
    - There should be a sense of awe and a sense of expectation
  - Many wonders and signs done through the apostles

- And all who believed were . . . (44–47a)
  - Together
  - Had all things in common
    - Selling their possessions and belongings
    - Distributing the proceeds to all as any had need
      - This was voluntary in participation and amount (Ananias and Sapphira)
        - **Acts 5:4**<sup>4</sup> While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not at your disposal? Why is it that you have contrived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to man but to God.”
    - May imply an expectation of quick return of the Lord, but temporary.
      - **Acts 11:29**<sup>29</sup> So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers [\[a\]](#) living in Judea.
  - Day by day
    - Attending the temple together
    - Breaking bread in their homes
      - Received their food with **glad** and **generous** hearts
      - They really enjoyed being with one another
    - **Praising God**
    - Having favor with all the people
- And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. (47b)
  - **Acts 2:41**<sup>41</sup> So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.
  - **Acts 4:4**<sup>4</sup> But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.
  - **Acts 5:14**<sup>14</sup> And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,

- **Acts 11:24** <sup>24</sup> for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord.
- **Acts 16:5** <sup>5</sup> So the churches were strengthened in the faith, and they increased in numbers daily.

They went about the task of:

- Becoming and making disciples
- Ministering to and with **one another**
- Sharing the message with others

Connect

- Attend large worship gatherings
- Find a small group/discipleship class
- Plug into a place of service

Love God, Love People, Seek the Lost, Make Disciples