



Decade of Availability Spirit-Led Fellowship

Church: *Being to each other what
He has been to us!*

The church as it was meant to be in Acts is made up of people who were devoted to four things.

A. Teaching vv. 42; 43 (See message # 7)

B. Fellowship vv. 42; 44-45

Being one: The earliest Christians mostly lived as a single family. When you live together as a family under one roof, you don't see this chair, this table, this bottle of milk, this loaf of bread, as 'mine' rather than 'yours'. From Ephesians 4:4-7; 11-13 we find these words...

"4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. 7 But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift...11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ..."

1. Koinonia: Greek=having in common. As thousands were being baptized thousands were also being tossed out of their homes and synagogues. Without the revaluing of personal possessions hundreds might have been forced to live on the street.

2. Luke's view of money: No other gospel writer said more about money. Only Luke records:

...the parable about the rich fool and the barn (Lk 12:16-21)
...the dishonest manager (Lk 16:1-8)
...the rich man and Lazarus (Lk 16:19-31)
...the good Samaritan (Lk 10:30-37)
...banquet table (Lk 14:16-24)

3. Our view of money: So how does this impact us? When is the last time you gave sacrificially to the needs of the poor? Do you carry cash money with you expressly to give to others?

Are you be willing to be led by the Spirit in giving to others?

C. Breaking of Bread vv. 42; 46

1. Love feasts: They were still following the Jewish custom of meeting in the Temple but then they engaged in 'community' around a meal and in homes. John 13 details the full 'love feast,' feet washing and communion which became normative in the early Church.

2. Hearts for God: They were glad for the food but mostly for what God was doing in adding to the church daily and what He was doing in knitting them together as a Church.

Are you willing to invite someone into your home for a meal of gladness?

D. Prayer vv. 42; 47 (See message # 9)

Acts 2:41-47 (NKJV)

41 Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.

42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.

43 Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

44 Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common,

45 and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need.

46 So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.