



## Decade of Availability The Spirit-Led Church

*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.

**Introduction:** On the day of Pentecost 3000 people were added to the Church and after that—each day the Lord causes the Church to grow. Could the 3000 number be significant in the light of Exodus 32:28 where 3000 died at the giving of the Law?

*In this passage we see how the early Church lived by devoting themselves to four core activities listed in v. 42, the apostles teaching, fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer:*

### **A. Teaching** vv. 42; 43

**1. Ongoing growth in the Word:** This teaching was not so much from the Old Testament as it was about the resurrection of Christ and the things given by the inspiration of the Spirit.

**2. The Word and wonders:** As a result of the teaching a sense of ‘awe’ came upon the Church and miracles were happening every day.

→ ***Are you willing to ‘expectantly’ read His Word everyday?***

### **B. Fellowship** vv. 42; 44-45

**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), and the 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 not glad for the food but 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

**1. Prayer and praise:** Joy expressed under the shadow of the cross serves to encourage and support early Christian communities. They experienced ‘favor’ in the city for a short time—but prayer became the central theme of life in the early Church. They were a praying Church.

**2. Luke’s view of persistent prayer:** Only Luke shares the parable of the persistent friend at midnight — Luke 11:5-8. Taken with the place of prayer in this passage and the rest of Acts we see a Pentecost-related foundation for prayer. “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.”

→ ***Are you willing to pray for someone everyday?***

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.