



THE DEVOTED CHURCH – ACTS 2:42-47

GETTING STARTED

The early church has been used as an example to promote all kinds of trends throughout the history of the church. From selling everything you have to the requirement of spiritual gifts to the necessity of communal living. While none of those things are commanded here, the reality of what the early church did is far more outstanding! They loved one another despite their differences, they listened and learned from the Word and they shared the message with everyone around them all while worshiping and praising God. The church has always been a compelling example of God's grace on all of us for anyone who would turn to look. The challenge for us to continue that example and reflect God's goodness and grace in our gatherings today.

READ THE TEXT: ACTS 2:42-47

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.



UNDERSTAND THE TEXT

1. List everything that the early church did together as a large group. List everything that they did in smaller groups. What differences and similarities do you see? What does this tell us about our Life Groups?
2. Why did the early church divide everything that they had? Are we commanded to do the same? Why or why not?

APPLY THE TEXT

3. Of the four main things that the church did (Teaching, fellowship, worship, witnessing), which do you think you individually need to grow in? What about as a life group?
4. What are the challenges of imitating this kind of Christian community for us? How can we deal with them?

SHARE & PRAY

1. As we study the book of Acts, think carefully about 1 or 2 people that you would like to actively share the gospel with. Share them with your life group and hold one another accountable in prayer and support.
2. In light of Acts 2:42-47, pray that God would unite us together in loving fellowship as we devote ourselves to His Word so that we can share the good news of Jesus together for the glory of God!

