

Connecting with God's People in Community

Acts 2:41-47

Introduction: The early Christians were devoted & committed to four things (v.42):

- Sound Bible teaching or “doctrine”
- Close community or “fellowship”
- The Lord’s Supper or “breaking bread”
- Dependence on God or “prayer”

Their church life was marked by two things:

- Simplicity and community
- See Acts 2:42; 2:44-47; 4:32; 5:42

A. Why Community is a BIG DEAL

1. **GOD** is a community
2. God **MADE** us for community
3. **SIN** destroys community
4. Jesus came to **RESTORE** community

B. The Church is:

1. Christ’s **NEW** community
2. To be a multiplying community made up of multiplying **SMALL GROUP**

C. Two Trends Infiltrating the Church

1. Individualism
2. Consumerism

D. Why Community?

1. The two greatest **COMMANDS**
2. The **PRAYER** Jesus taught us
3. The **BOOKS** of the N.T.
4. The metaphors for the Church
5. The one **ANOTHER** commands
6. The **FRUIT** of the Spirit
7. The **GIFTS** of the Spirit

The Results—Acts 2:47

Applications:

1. As you study the Bible, look through the lens of community, not individualism.
2. Commit yourself to becoming a part of a caring church of Bible-believers.
3. Join a weekly small group.
4. Practice a no-gossip rule!

Are YOU in community?