

The 7 Rhythms of the Christian Life

Read: Acts 2:37-47

Main Idea: The formation of the church after the ascension of Jesus provides several characteristics that should mark every believer's life.

Key Verses: "Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (2:37-38)

Key Principles:

- Following Christ begins with repentance and faith. None of the other characteristics will be present if you do not believe and surrender to Jesus Christ.
- You cannot live the Christian life in a way that honors God and fulfills your purpose without the power of God that is available to you through prayer.
- God's children are devoted to God's word for life, direction and purpose..
- We must recognize that to become more and more like Jesus we must become generous as He is generous.
- Serving others by meeting their needs is a great way to share the love Jesus with your church and community.
- Gratitude and worship are the natural responses to a life that has been redeemed.
- When you have received the grace of God you will want to share your story with others.

Discussion:

1. What's the most challenging aspect of this text for you? Why? What's the most encouraging aspect of this text? Explain your answer.
2. What are some contemporary challenges we face in imitating this early Christian community?
3. Which of these 7 characteristics most resonated with you? Why?
4. What are some changes you can make and steps you can take to improve your spiritual walk in any of these areas?
5. What is the biggest obstacle standing between you and deep, genuine relationships with other believers?
6. Do you think outsiders observing College Road would be attracted to the faith because of our Christian community? Why or why not?

Prayer:

- Focus on the spiritual growth of our faith family over the next 10 weeks..
- Pray:
 - o That God would stretch and grow us throughout this experience.
 - o That we follow His guidance and direction on this discipleship journey.
 - o That we would glorify God, encourage one another and find a passion for the lost.

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Acts 2:37-47

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| I. | <u>Repent</u> and <u>Believe</u>. | 2:37-39 |
| II. | <u>Pray</u> to <u>God</u>. | 2:42 |
| III. | <u>Study</u> God's <u>Word</u>. | 2:42, 46 |
| IV. | <u>Give</u> <u>Sacrificially</u>. | 2:44-45 |
| V. | <u>Serve</u> the <u>Community</u>. | 2:44-45 |
| VI. | <u>Worship</u> <u>God</u>. | 2:46-47 |
| VII. | <u>Share</u> Your <u>Story</u>. | 2:14-36 |

Who is God?
Exodus 3:1-22