

Better Together

Read: Acts 2:42-47

Main Idea: True unity in the body of Christ enriches our faith and community experience, revealing God's design for us to thrive together in love and service.

Key Verses: "And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles." **(Acts 2:42-43)**

Key Principles:

- The early church was rooted in Scripture and Christ's resurrection, fostering a shared doctrinal foundation that sustained their community.
- Shared fellowship, including the Lord's Supper created a family-like bond among diverse believers.
- Radical generosity flowed from recognizing all possessions as God's and prompted believers to meet the needs of others and reflect Jesus' sacrificial love.
- The early church balanced corporate gatherings with more intimate home gatherings to blend public praise with personal hospitality.
- A sense of awe reminded the community of God's active presence, inspiring trust in His power for ongoing transformation.
- The church's witness, marked by joy and praise, led to daily salvations, showing how unified living draws outsiders to the gospel.

Discussion:

1. How does the early church's devotion to spiritual disciplines demonstrate God's design for community? Share a time when practicing these deepened your faith.
2. In what ways did the believers' shared life and awe at God's power build trust and unity among them?
3. What motivated the early church's commitment to loving one another through generosity? Share how mutual support has enriched your relationships with others.
4. How does the text show that supporting those in need is an expression of Christ-like generosity? Discuss practical ways your group can meet needs at church.
5. Why did the believers' worship in both large and small settings? How does blending public and home gatherings impact your worship experience?
6. How did purity in worship lead to God's blessing of growth and favor with outsiders? Discuss steps your can take to cultivate a faith that invites others to salvation.

Prayer:

- Pray for a renewed devotion to unity, embracing God's design for our church.
- Pray for:
 - Hearts rooted in Scripture that informs every aspect of our faith family's life.
 - That we will experience radical generosity as a reflection of Christ's love.
 - Boldness to worship faithfully, drawing others to the gospel through our witness.

Better Together
Acts 2:42-47

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| I. | Stay <u>devoted</u> to Christian <u>community</u>. | 2:42-43 |
| 1. | <u>Practice</u> spiritual <u>disciplines</u> . | 2:42 |
| 2. | <u>Trust</u> divine <u>power</u> . | 2:43 |
| II. | Stay <u>committed</u> to Christian <u>generosity</u>. | 2:44-45 |
| 1. | We should <u>love</u> one another. | 2:44 |
| 2. | We should <u>support</u> one another. | 2:45 |
| III. | Stay <u>faithful</u> to Christian <u>worship</u>. | 2:46-47 |
| 1. | God <u>desires</u> <u>unity</u> in worship. | 2:46 |
| 2. | God <u>blesses</u> <u>purity</u> in worship. | 2:47 |

NEXT WEEK:
Serving Together
Acts 3:1-26