

## LIFE TOGETHER

Koinonia – Acts 2:42-47

October 23, 2016

**KNOW:** Life together in the church does not have to be complicated, just well-rounded and heartfelt. Such ministry often leads to good evangelism and non-believers becoming believers.

**DO:** Practice Biblical fellowship.

### I. AN INSTRUCTED CHURCH

- The believers were devoted to teaching; not just any teaching, but to the teaching of the apostles. It was an “apostolic” community (Luke 6:13; Acts 15:13; 1 Cor. 4:1; 12:28; Eph. 2:20; 2 Pet. 3:2).
- The teaching ministry of the apostles was authenticated (proven; demonstrated to have God’s approval) through the gift of signs and wonders (vs. 43; Acts 5:12; 8:6-7; 14:3; 15:12; Rom. 15:19; 2 Cor. 12:12; 2 Thess. 2:8-9).

### II. A FELLOWSHIPPING CHURCH

- The believers shared (*Koinonia* = “common, participation”).
- They ate together and participated in the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper together (1 Cor. 11:23-26).
- They shared their material and spiritual wealth, with each other and with the poor (Gal. 2:10; 1 John 3:17).

### III. A WORSHIPPING CHURCH

- They worshipped in their homes and corporately in the temple (vs. 46; Acts 5:12).
- Prayer was a part of their worship - one assumes in both their homes and in the temple. They believed that God was listening to them (Matt. 6:5; Col. 1:3; 1 Thess. 5:17).

### IV. A WITNESSING CHURCH

- The church had grown from approximately 120 to 3,120 as the result of one gospel message. God was still adding to their number as they lived life as the church (Acts 6:1).
- The church was, and remains, a missionary church (vs. 47; Matt. 28:19-20).

### V. THE RESULTS

- Awe came upon the community.
- Poverty was stricken from the fellowship (Acts 4:34).
- Only genuine believers dared join them (Acts 4:13).
- There was great joy, and they had the favor of the people.

#### Suggested Reading:

*Out of the Saltshaker & Into the World*, by Rebecca M. Pippert

#### Questions/Discovery Points for Life Groups/Families

##### Please read Acts 2:42-47

1. What stands out to you about the early church? What do you think life was like as one of those early believers?
2. Vs. 42 says: “And they devoted themselves...” Talk about what our devotion looks like in the church of today. Is it similar to the first believers, or does it seem different?
3. There was quite a bit of generosity being displayed in the early church community. Should we still be living like this today?
4. How do we manage our time in fellowship with believers and our time in “life” in general? Are there some things we need to learn about and possibly adjust here?
5. What are the strengths and weaknesses at LifePoint in relation to this passage? Where are we strong? Where are we weak? What shall we do about it?
6. What is your role in helping the church become a church that looks like the one portrayed in this passage?