

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week October 20, 2013

This Week's Focus: A description of how the early Church lived life together.

This Week's Text: Acts 2:42-47

*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. **1 John 1:5-7***

*We exist to glorify God by living on mission with Him in making disciples through gospel centered worship, transformation and community. **King's Chapel***

Related Texts: Romans 1:16, 3:10-12, 8:32; 1 Corinthians 10:14-17, 14:37-38; 2 Corinthians 12:12; Colossians 1:21-22; 2 Thessalonians 3:14-15; Luke 12:15

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- How has God spoken to you regarding the sermon and/or text?
- In what ways does the message of Peter and the response of the listeners in verses 22-41 set the stage for what happens in verses 42-47?
- Make a list and discuss the characteristics and functions of the early church which are evident in this passage.
- What's the difference between devoting yourself to something and merely adding something to your already busy lives?
- Were did the apostles receive their authority? Where is that authority now?
- Pastor Lou talked about the difference between principles and methods. What are some principles of scripture and the methods used by the church?

- What were some of the cultural uniquenesses of the early Church? What are some of the cultural uniquenesses of our day?
- How can we live life together and emulate the principles found in verses 42-47?
- Scripture tells us not to “seek signs and wonders” (Matthew 12:39) but God does perform miracles to verify His message and the messenger. Reference 2 Corinthians 12:12. Are there abuses? Do you think that signs and wonders and miracles are possible today?
- Read Romans 1:16 and 1 Corinthians 1:17-18 and 22-24. What are we told about the gospel? What was Paul’s central message to the Greeks at Corinth, in spite of their intellects, morals and philosophies?
- We see God’s people being willing to sacrifice to meet the needs of others. What are we holding on to that prevents us from caring for others well?
- Verse 46 says, "they received their food with glad and generous hearts..." Are we grateful for our blessings, even the little things we take for granted, such as food?
- Consider and discuss how powerful gladness, joy, generosity and praising God can be in declaring the gospel and drawing people to Christ. How can we do it better?

Gospel Celebration:

- The Gospel is the power of God!
- Allow the gospel to reshape and reorient our hearts so that genuine community along with generosity will propel us into mission.

Prayer Focus:

- Pray for opportunities to witness to others concerning the person and work of Jesus.

Next Week’s Text: Acts 3.