

Lifegroup questions

The early church described in Acts 2 is a church that is pursuing the right things. This group of largely new believers seemed to have very notable a different way of life because of what the Holy Spirit was doing in their hearts. The key word in this week's passage (Acts 2:42-47) is *devoted*, meaning: extremely loving and loyal; committed; faithful; steadfast; unfaltering.

Teaching

Read: Col 3:16, 1 Thes 5:11, Ps 25:5, Matt 28:19-20, Acts 5:42,

What does the responsibility and actions does the church (us) have in learning from God's Word?

What can we (as a life group) do to support one another in this?

Fellowship

The word Luke uses for "fellowship" is Koinonia - which has the meaning:

- (a) contributory help, participation,
- (b) sharing in, communion,
- (c) spiritual fellowship, a fellowship in the spirit.

Read Matthew 19:17-22, Luke 12:33, Luke 14:33.

What can we learn about fellowship in the church from these verses.

Consider Acts 2:44-45 and Acts 4:34-47. What can we learn from these verses about fellowship amongst the church.

Communion

Look up references to "breaking of bread" - what which interpretation of the phrase do you think Luke was intending in Acts 2? (Some suggestions, but also add to this! Matt 14:19, Matt 26:26, Luke 24:45, Acts 20:11, 1 Cor 10:16)

In what ways is Luke's description of "breaking of bread" about more than food?

Prayer

Prayer is modelled and commanded extensively throughout the whole bible. In this passage, it seems likely that the church participated in communal or congregational prayers.

1 Tim 2:1-4; 1 The 5:16-18

What are the advantages of personal prayer? What are the advantages of group prayer?

Evangelism

Read Acts 1:8; Acts 13:1-3

Is evangelism an activity that the church is to do?

How did the functions of the church in Acts 2 establish or lead to the decision in Acts 13?

How might we as a church be effective in looking for decisions and opportunities like in Acts 13?

Personal application

What area(s) of "key church functions" has the Lord prompted you to consider?

What is something you can do to allow the Holy Spirit to work on your heart in this area?

What opportunities could you seize this week to exercise this key function?