

“United” - Acts 2:41-47

Ask - “What role does the church play in your life?”

Background - Today’s lesson is a continuation of last week’s lesson on the Day of Pentecost. It focuses on the results of Peter’s sermon and what it blossomed into in the days and weeks that followed.

“The Beginning of the Church” - Acts 2:41-42

(v41a) What did those who heard Peter’s sermon do before being baptized? What is the doctrine of believer’s baptism? Discuss.

(<https://www.gotquestions.org/believers-baptism.html>)

(v41b) How many people were saved on the day of Pentecost?

(v42) What were the 4 activities of the fledgling church? Discuss each.

3,000 PEOPLE ACCEPTED CHRIST UNTO SALVATION AND WERE BAPTIZED AS AN EXPRESSION OF THEIR NEW FAITH. THESE NEW CHRISTIANS LEARNED FROM THE APOSTLES’ TEACHING AND PREACHING, ENJOYED FELLOWSHIP, OBSERVED THE LORD’S SUPPER, AND CAME TOGETHER IN PRAYER.

“The Comradery of the Church” - Acts 2:43-45

(v43) How was God’s presence evident among the infant church? How did its members feel about it?

(v44) How does this verse describe the members of the new church? Why is community and unity important in the church?

(v45) What specifically were the church members doing and why? What virtue(s) does this demonstrate?

THE CHURCH WAS IN AWE OF SIGNS AND WONDERS BEING DONE BY THE APOSTLES. IT’S MEMBERS WERE UNIFIED AND TIGHTLY KNIT, SHARING THEIR POSSESSIONS AND PROCEEDS WITH THOSE IN NEED.

“The Growth of the Church” - Acts 2:46-47

(v46) How does this verse further describe the attitude and activity of the members of the early church? Discuss.

(v47) Who were they praising? What was their reputation among the people?

How was the LORD blessing them?

How does the description of the early church compare with your church? How does it compare with the church in general today?

MEMBERS OF THE EARLY CHURCH WERE UNIFIED, THANKFUL, SINCERE, AND GLAD. THEY WERE FAVORED BY THE COMMUNITY AS THEY JOYFULLY PRAISED AND WORSHIPED GOD.

Application - The early church serves as a model for churches today. Those who believed were baptized and added to the church. They practiced preaching and teaching, prayer, fellowship, and keeping the Lord's Supper. They were unified in a close sense of community, sacrificially supporting one another and meeting each other's needs. They were joyful, thankful, and sincere. They were highly regarded by the community. God's presence was evident among them and they continued to grow daily. What lessons can we learn from this description of the church in its earliest days?