

Acts 2

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

⁴³Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles.

⁴⁴All the believers **were together**

and **had everything in common.**

⁴⁵Selling their possessions and goods, **they gave** to anyone as he had need.

⁴⁶Every day they **continued to meet together in the temple courts.**

They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,

⁴⁷praising God and

enjoying the **favor of all the people.**

And the Lord **added to their number** daily those who were being saved.

Devoted – they were continually, with intense effort despite difficulty, devoting themselves – keeping on – persisting in:

- the apostles teachings
- fellowship
- breaking bread, i.e. remembering the Lord's Supper
- prayer

“Together” – at the same place

- in the temple
- in their homes

“Common” -- κοινά - the root for κοινωνία -- fellowship

- in purpose and action
- in provision for the community

“Continued to meet together” - devoting themselves (middle) with one mind -- in the temple.

“Glad and sincere hearts” - with exultation and simplicity of heart

Fellowship of God with Believers

- Apostle's Teaching
- Breaking of Bread
- Corporate Prayers
- Praising God

Fellowship of Believers with Believers

- In The Same Place
- Had everything in common
- Commitment to each other
- Broke bread in homes

Fellowship of Believers with non-believers

- Signs and wonders
- Favor with all the people
- The Lord added to their number

1. Nurture of one another and outreach were the result of worshipping together

a. Worship → nurture → outreach

2. Worship is the goal of the other two but it is also the foundation of the other two.

3. Nurture and evangelism only occur as an outgrowth of healthy and meaningful worship.

4. Worship is the cause; nurture and evangelism is the result.

5. All three are relationships that require:

- a. Time and togetherness
- b. Communication
- c. Discipline and sacrifice
- d. Commitment
- e. Love

6. “Praising God” connects worship with Nurture and Outreach.

Worship is the end all for all people -- **Community**

- Worship is the goal of the other two but it is also the foundation of the other two.
- Nurture and evangelism only occur as an outgrowth of healthy and meaningful worship.
- Worship is the cause; nurture and evangelism is the result.
- Nurture of one another and outreach were the result of worshipping together
 - a. Worship → nurture → outreach

1. Community of God with Believers - Vs 42 ---- Worship

THEY WERE DEVOTED: -- They were with intense effort despite difficulty devoted - keeping - persisting in:

- Apostle's Teaching --
- Breaking of Bread - Remembering what Jesus did by dying on the cross and raising from the grave
- Corporate Prayers - "and to their prayers"
- Praising God - **VS 47** -- Singing to his honor and exultation

2. Community of Believers with Believers - koinonia - "held in common" - Life Together

THEY WERE DEVOTED to the fellowship - those with whom they had a share in Christ and with whom they would participate through him.

- a **VS 44** -- At the same place - they met together in the same place - in the temple - in their homes
- b. Had everything in common - "Common" -- κοινά - **the root for κοινωνία -- fellowship**
 - in purpose and action
 - in provision for the community
- c. **VS 46** -- "They continued to meet together" - 1) to adhere to one, to be devoted or constant to one 2) to be steadfastly attentive unto, to give unremitting care to a thing 2) together with one mind - one accord - one passion
 - IN THE TEMPLE** - They were not ashamed or afraid, intimidated or indifferent
- d. Broke bread in homes - As a community - as partners - by eating together they affirmed their community/fellowship
- e. Did so with joy and extreme gladness
- f. With utter sincerity - truth

3. Community of Believers with non-believers - Community of Grace

- **VS 43** -- Signs and wonders - "Filled with awe" - "the breath of life was in them" - and - " held a deep reverence for the fellowship shared by the believers"
- **VS 47** -- Favor with all (the whole of) the people - The grace of God experienced in the fellowship was given back to them by way of the favor shown to them by the people. Grace Begat Grace!!
- The Lord added to their number - the Lord "joined to them" daily those who were "being kept safe and sound - rescued from danger and destruction"

4. What does this have to do with you?

- 1 We are to worship together!! - Community in worship
- 2 We are to relate to one another - Community in Life Together
 - a. Time and togetherness Communication
 - b. Discipline and sacrifice Commitment
 - c. Love Grace
3. Share our Life with Pre-Christians – Community of Grace

Worship → Nurture → Witness

1. The 4 were the results of being a Christ-follower, not requirement for being a follower. They are the outflow of being a Christ-follower. SEE VS 41 – REDEEMED PEOPLE
2. Although we are told how the church lived together, the passage is about how their life together brought people to faith in Christ = THE WITNESS OF THE CHURCH
3. The Method/structure of the 4 was
 - a. Togetherness
 - b. Holding on common their possessions which were now an extension of their shared values and beliefs (ALL PEOPLE = WITNESS)
 - c. Faithfulness in worship together
 - i. Corporate
 - ii. In small groups
 - d. Their attitude was one of joy and simplicity (Sincerity) toward and for each other – truly bound by the Spirit and love of God through Christ
4. Their life together, joined with the truth of Christ Jesus, was their greatest witness.
5. And the church (Christ-followers – the people of God) grew in number every day
6. The church was not an event or a time set aside – it was a way of life.

<p>⁴²They devoted themselves</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) to the apostles' teaching 2) and to fellowship, 3) to the breaking of bread 4) and to prayer. 	<p>to persist in adherence to a thing; to be intently engaged in, attend constantly to, to remain constantly in a place, to constantly attend upon, continue near to, be at hand</p>
<p>⁴³Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>⁴⁴All the believers <u>were together</u> and had everything in common. ⁴⁵They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. ⁴⁶Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. (GATHER)</p>	<p>2 to be in proximity</p> <p>Day by every day with one mind, with one accord, unanimously,</p>
<p>They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,</p>	<p>3 House to house</p>
<p>⁴⁷praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people.</p>	<p>4a</p>
<p>And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.</p>	<p>4b Day by every day</p>

Is your church like you?