



PART 5: THE SPIRIT FILLED COMMUNITY

Sermon Notes

Text: Acts 2:42-47

Intro:

At its best, what does a Spirit filled church look like?

Acts 2:42-47

The believers were devoted to:

- The Apostles teaching (studying the New Testament)
- To Fellowship (community with other believers)
- The breaking of bread (The Lord's supper)
- Prayer (Corporate and personal)

At its best, the Acts church was marked by devotion. The result of their devotion was awe, generosity, togetherness, and growth.

Devotion is a commitment or dedication to a purpose. It's an act of binding yourself to a course of action.

Devotion comes before results

If the church in Canada is not devoted to the things the early church was devoted to, we can't be surprised or disappointed when we don't experience the results the early church experienced.

The greatest contributing factor to a child's future commitment to Jesus and his church is the father's present commitment to Jesus and his church.

Conclusion:

Life Group Discussion

Warm up:

1. What is something you are devoted/committed to? For example: cheering for a professional sports team, a social or environmental cause, a volunteer organization, etc. What practical things do you have to do to express that devotion (i.e. time and resource commitment).
2. What stood out to you about Sunday's sermon? What was interesting? Confusing? Weird? Thought provoking?

Study & Discussion:

1. Read Acts 2:42-47. How would you describe your church to someone who asked? How would you rate the sense of awe, generosity, togetherness and growth at Bethel?
2. Read Hebrews 10:23-25. What is your opinion about church attendance? How committed should Christians be in their Sunday service attendance? *Don't allow this conversation to get legalistic or judgemental.*
 - What do you think are some contributing factors to the trend of declining church attendance in Canada? Is there anything that can be done?
3. Read Romans 12:3-8. Passages like these are impossible to apply unless we purposely gather regularly with other believers. Everyone has a part to play, and when one person is missing, the community misses out. Spend some time encouraging each member of the group by taking turns telling each other what positive contributions and gifts they bring to the body.

Application:

- What are some practical ways you can show your devotion to your church family this week?

Prayer:

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