

Acts 2:42-47

EMC Wednesday Night Bible Study - 11-9-16

Context

- I. Introduction
 - A. Introduction to Luke (Luke 1:1-4)
 - B. Introduction to Acts (Acts 1:1-5)
- II. In Jerusalem (1:6-6:7)
 - A. Waiting for Pentecost (1:6-26)
 - B. The Day of Pentecost (2:1-47)**
 - C. The outbreak of persecution (3:1-4:31)
 - D. Satanic counter-attack (4:32-6:7)

The effects of Pentecost: The Life of the Church

What is the evidence of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in the church?

It was a _____ church - V. 42a - "They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching"

- What they were *not* doing:
 - Mystical experience → despise the mind/disdain theology
 - Dispensing with human teachers
- What they *were* doing: Sitting at the apostles' feet, hungry to receive instruction
- V. 43b - "many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles"
 - Teaching _____ by miracles
 - Connection to Jesus' _____ & _____
- The _____ of God leads the _____ of God to submit to the _____ of God

It was a _____ church - v. 42a - "They were continually devoting themselves to the...fellowship"

- Κοινωνία (*koinonia*) = "common"
 - What we share _____ together
 - The life of God himself - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (I John 1:3; II Cor. 13:14)
 - *koinonia* is a _____ experience
 - What we share _____ together - what we give and receive
 - Paul's use of *koinonia* (II Cor. 8:4; 9:13)
 - *Koinonikos* = "_____ " (cf. v. 45)
 - Not compulsory, but _____
 - Speaks to the _____ and _____ of the church
 - Cf. Dt. 26:12; I John 3:17

It was a _____ church - v. 42b - "They were continually devoting themselves to the...breaking of bread and to prayer."

- Definite article → Lord's Supper and prayer services/meeting
- The _____ of worship
 - Formal and informal - v. 46 - "in the temple and...house to house"

- Did not abandon the “institution” of worship (cf. 3:1)
 - Supplemented with informal, spontaneous meetings in homes
- Joyful and reverent - v. 46 - “with gladness and sincerity of hearts” and v. 43 - “everyone kept feeling a sense of awe”
 - God had given gifts
 - God was also in their midst

It was an _____ church

- Don't isolate v. 42! - the _____ life of the church
- 47b - “the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved”
 - The Holy Spirit is a _____ Spirit
 - The church filled with him is a _____ church
- 3 lessons to be learned about local church evangelism:
 - The Lord himself _____ (v. 47)
 - Guards against:
 - Pressure to assume the burden of changing people
 - Temptation to take credit
 - Evangelism = _____
 - Involves both the _____ and _____ aspects of the church
 - “added to their number” - people are drawn into the fellowship
 - “those who were being saved” - those experiencing his salvation
 - It is an _____ activity - “was adding day by day”
 - The verb tense + adverb ___ sporadic, occasion activity

The Church's Relationships

- To the apostles - _____
 - We are to be committed to the Word of God
- To one another - _____
 - Fellowship, mutual support and care, sharing in and relieving each other's needs
- To God - _____
 - In the temple, in the home, in the Lord's Supper, in the prayers, with joy and reverence
- To the world - _____
 - Continuous evangelism, ongoing life of Spirit-enabled witness. No self-centered, self-contained, self-absorbed church.