

ACTS 2:42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.⁴³ Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.⁴⁴ All the believers were together and had everything in common.⁴⁵ They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.⁴⁶ Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,⁴⁷ praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

As a group, list 4-5 attributes of a healthy church. What should a thriving church look like?

According to verse 42, what four things did the early believers devote themselves to? Why are these important?

The early church was marked by unity and shared life. How do we foster these values today in the church? What are barriers to these being lived out in the modern church?

The early church demonstrated extravagant generosity. How can we express this type of care and benevolence in our lives today?

Verse 46 describes meeting in both the temple and homes. Why is it important for the church to gather in both large and small groups?

“Healthy things grow.” If this is true of the church, how do we see it in the early church? How should we see it in churches today?

DAILY READINGS

1. PSALM 133:1-3
2. MATTHEW 5:1-16
3. LUKE 6:27-49
4. JOHN 13:34-35
5. JOHN 17:1-26
6. HEBREWS 10:19-39
7. ACTS 2:42-47