

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“The Family Connection”

ConnectionMonth@FirstOdessa – Pt. 2

Acts 2:40-47 & Selected

Benefits of My Family Connection:

I. I am identified as part of God’s Family!

“And they devoted themselves....” Vs. 42a

“God sets the lonely in families.” Psalm 68:6 NIV

See Galatians 3:27-29

II. I am positioned to learn about God!

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching....” Vs. 42b

Christian Cycle of Learning:

“Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.” 1 Peter 2:2-3

- (1) True Forgiveness
- (2) True Devotion
- (3) True Discipleship
- (4) True Transformation
- (5) True Abundant Living

III. I experience true community with my brothers and sisters!

“And they devoted themselves to... the fellowship.” Vs. 42c

- **We share the common experiences of life together.**

“And all who believed were together and had all things in common.” Vs. 44

“Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.”

Proverbs 27:17

- **We share the common problems of life together.**

“And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together....” Vs. 45-46a

“And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.” Hebrews 10:24-25

“The grape that strays away from the cluster becomes the raisin!” Jordon McWilliams

- **We share our strengths and weaknesses together.**

“Bear one another’s burdens....” Galatians 6:2a

“A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.”

Ecclesiastes 4:12b

- **We share our devotion to our Father together!**

“And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.” Vs. 42

“And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.” Vs. 47b

The Early Christian Family:

“Turned the world upside down....” Acts 17:6