

**Sermon Title:** Dependent Community

**Sermon Series:** Gospel Directed Community

**Scripture:** Acts 2:42-47

**Speaker:** Pastor Mike Barnhart



**Gospel – Jesus lived, died, & rose to life for you.**

Love –

- No Fear
- No Condemnation
- No Insecurity
- No Shame

This all leads to Humble Honesty.

Humble Honesty leads to a willingness to extend Grace & Honor to others because that's how God's loved us.

As we have a heart of grace & honor toward those around us, The Gospel directs us to Forgive & Live Forgiven.

It is then that we can start to Rebuild Trust.

**All of this can only happen when we have a Dependent Community.**

**Acts 2:36 ESV**

36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

### Acts 2:37 ESV

37 Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

### Acts 2:38 ESV

38 And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

### Acts 2:40–41 ESV

40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

**They are looking for HOPE.**

### Acts 2:42–47 ESV

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and

generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**Because the Gospel is trustworthy, you must live as a \_\_\_\_\_ community.**

### **Acts 2:36 ESV**

36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

### **Repent & Believe**

**When you trust the Gospel, you encounter true hope.**

**Because the Gospel is trustworthy, you must live as a dependent community.**

### **Acts 2:42–43 ESV**

42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.

**1. Depend on \_\_\_\_\_.**

- Their devotion to the “apostles’ teaching” pointed them to Jesus.
- Their devotion to the “fellowship, the breaking of bread, and the prayers” all led them to greater & greater delight in Christ.

**We’re called by God to live dependent upon the Gospel—to depend on Christ.**

**Acts 2:47 ESV**

47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

**2. Depend on \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Acts 2:44–46 ESV**

44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

**(1) Know what God’s blessed you with—it could be a talent, time, or some sort of physical gift.**

**(2) Get to know the people of the church and what they need.**

### **Hebrews 10:24–25 ESV**

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 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.

Our dependence upon Christ & one another is primarily expressed and increased by our gathering together.

### **Hebrews 10:24–25 ESV**

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### **A Gospel-directed community is a dependent community.**

To live dependent upon the Gospel so that we know how much we're loved...

- We're living in humble honesty...
- We're living with hearts of grace & honor toward others...
- We're confident that we're forgiven & living forgiven...
- We're rebuilding trust...

**As we depend on Christ & one another we'll become a Gospel-directed community.**

## Discussion Questions:

### 1. Pray together.

2. How have you found value in being dependent upon the church, the body of Christ?

3. Why do you think being dependent upon Jesus and one another—the church—is necessary to experience a Gospel-directed community?

### 4. Read Acts 2:36-47.

#### Acts 2:36-47 ESV

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38 And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. 42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43 And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. 44 And all who believed were together and had all things in common. 45 And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46 And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and

generous hearts, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

a. How does this text point us to depend on Jesus in community as the church?

b. How does this text point us to depend on one another in the church?

5. Read Hebrews 10:24-25. What do these verses communicate about the value of gathering together (i.e., worship, small groups, in homes)?

Hebrews 10:24–25 ESV

24 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, 25 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.

6. How is God challenging you to increase your dependence upon Christ and/or one another in the church?

**7. Pray for one another.**