

Series: The Acts of the Apostles: From Jerusalem

Text: Acts 2:42-47

HI: Jesus builds his people.

Title: *Vital Signs*

Hook: Medical test

Date: 9.25.22

Purpose: To glorify Jesus through an examination of his witness through his people.

FCF: The followers of Jesus inhabited a world of need and brokenness, armed with the power of God's Spirit and the truth of the gospel.

COR: This is such an attractive picture of the community of Jesus. It makes sense that they had "favor" with all the people.

Witness of Christ [WC*]: Jesus is the primary actor, moving in and through his people by the power of his Spirit.

Apologetic: Every single person desires "family" like this. The church is the forever family of God.

Form: Deductive

Outline:

I. Salvation propels devotion. (42-43)

A. The Spirit's presence generates a genuine work. (42)

B. The Spirit's power authenticates the true gospel. (43)

II. Unity drives generosity. (44-45)

A. Their faith leads to unity. (44)

B. Their unity leads to sacrifice. (45)

III. Witness advances mission. (46-47)

A. Joy in God sparks their witness. (46-47a)

B. Jesus steadily continues his mission. (47b)

Main Idea:

Subject: A day in the life of the Lord's Spirit-filled people.

Complement: They were mutually edified and supernaturally multiplied.

Exegetical Idea: A day in the life of the Lord's Spirit-filled people included mutual edification and supernatural multiplication.

Theological Idea: The Lord adds people to his people as they grow together.

Homiletical Idea: Jesus builds his people.

Introduction:

READ Acts 2:42-47 RE-READ Acts 2:42-43

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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. (Acts 2:42-47 ESV)

I. Salvation propels devotion. (42-43)

(the) fellowship: koinonia: Spirit-wrought community; sharing together in something.

“The physical presence of other Christians is a source of incomparable joy and strength to the believer.” Dietrich Bonhoeffer *Life Together*

“Dependency is the heartbeat of prayer. Paul Miller *A Praying Life*

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READ Acts 2:44-45

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⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

II. Unity drives generosity. (44-45)

Their faith leads to unity. (44)

Their unity leads to sacrifice. (45)

READ Acts 2:46-47

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

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III. Witness advances mission. (46-47)

“generous” hearts – “sincere” “simple”

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