Find Your Seat: Setting the Table

All Bible passages are quoted from the New International Version of the Bible unless otherwise noted.

Acts 2:42-47 | ⁴² 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.

BIG IDEA: The church should look like a healthy family.

Healthy families:

1. <u>CONNECT</u> and <u>SERVE</u> regularly. (v.44)

4 Levels of CONNECTION:

Level 1 - PLAY together (Ecclesiastes 8:15)

Level 2 - <u>LEARN</u> together (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Level 3 - <u>SERVE</u> together (1 Peter 4:10)

Level 4 - MOURN together (Romans 12:15)

2. <u>WELCOME</u> new family members. (v.46-47)

Our vision is A Family for Everyone.

NEXT STEP: Commit to being an actively engaged part of your church family.

Further Study & Discussion Questions

Getting to Know You:

Share a quick snapshot of what your family looked like growing up. Does your current family look the same? If not, how is it different? What are some of the things your family values?

Quick Review:

Was there anything about this week's message that was surprising to you? Was there a specific point or Scripture that made you want to elbow the person sitting next to you? Or maybe made them want to elbow you? What was the one thing you remember most from the message?

Digging Deeper:

1. Read **Acts 2:4-15**. We see that people thought maybe the apostles were drunk because of the way they were communicating. Has anyone ever thought you were "drunk" or "crazy" due to the things you've spoken about Jesus? How did you respond to that?

2. As a church, we value making people feel like they can belong here before they even believe the things we teach about Jesus. How does that make you feel? Is this comfortable for you or uncomfortable? Is there a reason a church should not allow that? What has been your previous church experience?

Application:

1. Look within your circles. Are there people within your current family that you can do a better job connecting with or serving? Pray that God would give you opportunities to do so.

Jesus, show me how I am supposed to serve and connect with the people around me.

2. Now look outside of your current circles. Is there someone you could welcome into your "family?" Is there someone you have left on the outside due to differences? Pray that God would reveal that person to you.

Jesus, help me always look for the outsider and give me the courage to welcome them in.