

2/12/2023

THIS IS CHURCH: “WHAT THE 1ST CHURCH DID”

ACTS 1&2

8 Things the 1st Church Did that Harvest Needs to Do Too

I. PRAY FOR GOD’S POWER to fill this place and us.

*“They all met together and were **constantly united in prayer...**” Acts 1:14a (NLT)*

*“On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the **roaring of a mighty windstorm**, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like **flames or tongues of fire** appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was **filled with the Holy Spirit** and began **speaking in other languages**, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.” Acts 2:1-4 (NLT)*

II. Reach out to all LANGUAGES AND RACES.

*“At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear **their own languages** being spoken by the believers. They were completely amazed. ‘How can this be?’ they exclaimed. ‘These people are all from Galilee, and yet we hear them speaking in **our own native languages!**’” Acts 2:5-8 (NLT)*

“And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!” Acts 2:11b (NLT)

III. Help every CHRISTIAN engage in ministry.

*“‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your **sons** and **daughters** will prophesy. Your **young men** will see visions, and your **old men** will dream dreams. In those days I will pour out My Spirit even on My servants—**men** and **women** alike—and they will prophesy.’” Acts 2:17-18 (NLT)*

IV. Get serious about studying and doing GOD’S WORD.

*“All the believers devoted themselves to **the apostles’ teaching**, and to fellowship, and to sharing in meals (including the Lord’s Supper), and to prayer.” Acts 2:42 (NLT)*

“60-Day Challenge” (Now till Palm Sunday)

1. Read Bible and pray every day
2. Small Group and Ministry Team
3. Worship every week
4. Generous lifestyle
5. Share your faith

V. We've got to **LOVE EACH OTHER** so much that it's noticeable.

*“Your love for one another will **prove to the world** that you are My disciples.” John 13:35 (NLT)*

“All the believers continued together in close fellowship and shared their belongings with one another.” Acts 2:44 (GNT)

VI. Make Church a **FUN** place to be....Worship God with **JOY**.

*“Therefore, my heart is **glad** and my tongue **rejoices**...” Acts 2:26 (NIV)*

*“You have made known to me the paths of life; You will fill me with **joy in Your presence**.” Acts 2:28 (NIV)*

VII. We must continue to be **GENEROUS**.

*“And all the believers met together in one place and shared everything they had. They sold their property and possessions and **shared the money with those in need**.” Acts 2:44-45 (NLT)*

VIII. We must **BRING OUR FRIENDS** to Jesus.

*“...all the while praising God and enjoying **the goodwill of all the people**. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.” Acts 2:47 (NLT)*

*“People **liked what they saw**. So, every day their number grew as God added those who were saved.” Acts 2:47 (MSG)*

Keep the Conversation going...

1. When you pray, what types of things do pray for?
2. Point #3 is about every Christian getting involved in a ministry. Is this a new idea to you? What ministry (help) can you do this week?
3. Pastor Jim said, “*We've got to love each other so much that it's noticeable.*” What does this mean to you? Give some examples of how you plan to love so intentionally. (Need some ideas? Read 1 Corinthians 13 and Romans 12.)
4. On a scale of 1-10, how comfortable are you bringing your friends to Jesus.