





[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.

(Acts 2:42-47 ESV)

[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)

UNSTOPPABLE





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Jesus wants devoted disciples, not merely converts.

And they devoted themselves to the **apostles' teaching** and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation, if you have tasted the kindness of the Lord.

(1 Peter 2:2-3 NASB)



Only God's Word can provide the spiritual nourishment that we desperately need.

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When God saves people, he calls them from isolation into community "Much of Western culture drives us to an individualism that undercuts this development of community. We are taught to have things our way and that being able to have our individual needs catered to is how to measure the success of an organization. In our culture, our individual needs and rights come before any needs of the group..."

(Bock, <u>Acts</u>, p. 155)

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"The biblical picture is not of what someone receives from the church, although one does receive a great deal, but of what one gives and how one contributes to it...When the early church said that God cared, the care they gave their own demonstrated this."

(Bock, *Acts*, p. 155)

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When is the last time you had that kind of encounter with God?

Acts 2:44-45

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1 John 3:16–18 ~ By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

1 Corinthians 13:3 ~ If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

We can give without loving, but we cannot love without giving.

2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 ~ For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

Acts 20:35 ~ In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive."

We should build margin into our calendars & budgets, so we can be generous.

Acts 2:46-47

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"In Acts we never see a community turned so inward that taking the message to those outside and engaging with those outside is forgotten or ignored."

(Bock, *Acts*, p. 149)

Our devotion to Christ is incomplete if we don't share Him with others.



