

# “Becoming the Church”

From the Series,  
“Love, Tell, Help People”

Acts 2:42-47  
Preached Sunday AM 3/23/14  
Meadow Baptist Church



**TRANSFORMING TRUTH**

*Trends deceive. Traditions enslave. God's Truth transforms.*

## 1. An Unwavering Dedication (42)

### “And they devoted themselves to...”

- a. They became committed to truth (42a) - “...the apostle’s teaching...”
- b. They became devoted to community (42b) - “...and fellowship, to the breaking of bread...”
- c. They became consistent in prayer (42a) - “...and in prayers.”

## 2. An Outward Manifestation (43)

- a. They were outwardly humbled (43a) - “And awe came upon every soul...”
- b. They were outwardly empowered (43b) - “...and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles.”
  - i. Signs - these were indicators given to attest to the power of God in the believers (appeals to intellect)
  - ii. Wonders - these were acts of power given to astound, and amaze (appeals to emotion/imagination)

## 3. An Engaged Congregation (44-45)

- a. They first gave themselves (44) - “And all who believed were together and had all things in common”
- b. They then gave their substance (45) - “And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all...”

c. All giving was voluntary - "...as any had need..."

**Their participation in knowing the needs of others and helping with those needs was not forced upon them by man nor God.**

#### 4. A Joyous Celebration (46-47)

a. Joy in the house of worship (46a) - "And day by day, attending the temple together ..."

b. Joy in believers' homes (46b) - "...and breaking bread in their homes..."

c. Joy in believers' hearts (46c) - "...they received their food with glad and generous hearts."

d. Joy in the community (47a) - "...praising God and having favor with all the people..."

e. Joy in Heaven (47b) - "And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved."