

Retro - Part 2
Calgary Life Church
September 9th Anthony Greco

Copying vinyl records to cassette tape.

It's now been 32 generations since Jesus began His mission on earth. Each generation has unconsciously or consciously added variations or layers onto the original. How much of our modern Christianity is still 'high-fidelity' and true to the original. This new series will explore Jesus and the early church to bring us back in harmony with the original sound!

Text:

Acts 2:41-47 NKJV

⁴¹ Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added *to them*. ⁴² And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers. ⁴³ Then fear came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common, ⁴⁵ and sold their possessions and goods, and divided them among all, as anyone had need. ⁴⁶ So continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved.

RECAP

- Church began on Day of Pentecost
- No more sacred places, just sacred people
- No more professional priesthood, but priesthood of all believers
- All have direct access to God
- God now indwelling every believer

1. Power To Live On

Frustration, anxiety, stress, conflict, and worry, are all power drains. Failure to manage our energy leads to disengagement from relationships.

When we stop caring about things we care about, we are too busy.

Jeremiah 2:13 NKJV

“For My people have committed two evils:
They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, *and* hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.

God says I am not just a part of your life- I am your life!

John 10:10 NKJV

I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly.

Is. 40:30,31 NKJV

Even the youths shall faint and be weary,
And the young men shall utterly fall,
³¹ But those who wait on the LORD
Shall renew *their* strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.

2. A People To Live With

Acts 2:42 NIV

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Gen. 2:18 NKJV

And the LORD God said, “*It is* not good that man should be alone;

The first thing God said was not good- to be alone.

Hebrews 10:25 NLT

²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Acts 2:42 NIV

They **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

3. A Purpose To Live For Jesus First Task was to Choose A Team.

Mt 4:19 NKJV

Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Matt. 4:21 NKJV

Going on from there, He saw two other brothers, James *the son of* Zebedee, and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets. He called them,

Mending – fit together, to frame

Eph. 4:11,12 NKJV

And He Himself gave some *to be* apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

No where in Acts did the Church not function in a team.

3 Core Values:

1. No Exceptions!

All people, Christian and non-Christian are valuable to God and His Kingdom.

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9 (KJV)

2. Non-Exclusive!

People are eternal. Therefore their present behavior is not as important as their eternal destiny. Evangelism is a process. Our aim is to provide people with a safe environment of love, acceptance, and forgiveness so they may progress on their spiritual journey.

I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.
1 Corinthians 3:6 (KJV)

3. Effective!

Effective ministry is designed by God to function best through teams.

Under his direction, the whole body is fitted together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.

Eph 4:16 NLT