

“Devotion, Fellowship, Service, Praise, Salvation”

Acts 2:40-44.

Series: The Church Begins - Acts” Part 7.

Rev. Dr. Scott Arnold. July 11, 2021. FBC Los Angeles

Key Thought: God is calling people to be saved and to serve. We are called into shared community of devotion, caring fellowship, sacrificial service, encouragement through praise, and the celebrative work of joining God's call and work of salvation.

- I. God brings new life even in hard times. (2:40)
 - A. Plead God's case with people (40a)
 - B. Face corruption with the good news of salvation (40b)

- II. Belief and baptism. (Evangelism and Dedication) (2:41)

- III. Growing as God's Covenant Community (2:42)
 - A. Devotion to Discipleship and Teaching (42a)
 - B. Devotion to Fellowship (42b)
 - C. Devotion to Communion and prayer (42c)

- IV. God blesses faith and sincerity. (2:43)
 - A. The church is filled with the Holy Spirit (43a)
 - B. The Church is empowered to serve and be used by God. (43b)

- V. The Church discovers Unity and Support (44)
 - A. The Church is called to come together. (44a)
 - B. The Church is called to share life and resources in common. (44b)

Key Point: God was working to bless the Church from temple worship to table fellowship. The Church experienced the power of God at work to bring people to salvation. The responsibility of the church is then to disciple, baptize, and teach people so that God's Covenant community will grow and bear good fruit for God's Kingdom.

Today, we are being called to unity and service as God's people again. God will add to our numbers those who are being saved as we are faithful to live and proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Scripture: Acts 2:40-44

40 With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” 41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. 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.

Questions for Discussion:

- 1.** What hard times, and elements of corruption, must we overcome today?
- 2.** It's difficult to directly share the gospel, so what kind of listening or acts of kindness may we do to help open people to a conversation about salvation in Jesus?
- 3.** What was so attractive about the early church that people came to be saved?
- 4.** What can we apply from this passage into our church life today?