

WHAT

- Presented Wednesday evening 1/17/24.
- The 2024 Vision and Action Plan.

WHY

- To fulfil our Vision To be the church where the unchurched and churched love to come.
- To accomplish our Mission Transformed Lives for Christ.

The Acts Chapter 2 Church

• Vincent has often stated that we should strive to be an "Acts Chapter 2 Church".

Acts 2: 14, 41-47 – Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd. Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to breaking of bread and to prayer.

Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts.

They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

THE SIX KEYS

1. They preached the Word.

Acts 2:14 — Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd.

- 2. Lives were Transformed.
 - Acts 2:41 Those who accepted his message were baptized.
 - Acts 2:43 Everyone was filled with awe and the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles.

- 3. They devoted themselves to their Church.
 - <u>Acts 2:42</u> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship ...
 - Acts 2:44 All the believers were together and had everything in common.

- 4. They gave their tithes and offerings.
 - Acts 2:45 They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had a need.

- 5. They had Life Groups.
 - <u>Acts 2:46</u> ... They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts.

- 6. Because of their total devotion to God they grew.
 - <u>Acts 2:47</u> ...And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

"There was once a community of believers who were so totally devoted to God that their life together was charged with the Spirit's power.

In that band of Christ-followers, believers loved each other with a radical kind of love. They took off their masks and shared their lives with one another. They laughed and cried and prayed and sang and served together in authentic Christian fellowship.

Those who had more shared freely with those who had less until socioeconomic barriers melted away. People related together in ways that bridged gender and racial chasms and celebrated cultural differences. — Dr. Gilbert Bilezikian, Evangelical Christian, writer, professor and lecturer.

"Acts 2 tells us that this community of believers, this church, offered unbelievers a vision of life that was so beautiful, it took their breath away. It was so bold, so creative, so dynamic that they couldn't resist it!" — Bill Hybels, Willow Creek Community Church

THAT'S WHAT WE ARE STRIVING TO BE! OUR VISION

To be the church where the unchurched and churched love to come.

OUR MISSION

Transformed Lives for Christ

To become an Acts 2 Church, we must become that "community of believers" that are totally devoted to God!

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 — Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

As it is written:

"They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

Now he who supplies seed to the Sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. And in their prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

THE 4 KEYS

1. It's a decision.

2 Corinthians 9:7 – Each of you should **give** what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

- 2. It requires obedience and generosity.
- **2 Corinthians 9:13** Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, others will praise God for the **obedience** that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your **generosity** in sharing with them and with every one else.

- 3. Have faith that God will supply all that you need.
- **2 Corinthians 9:8** And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

- 3. Have faith that God will supply all that you need.
- **2 Corinthians 9:11** You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.

- 4. Freely give of your gifts and services.
- **2 Corinthians 9:9** As it is written: "They freely scattered their **gifts** to the poor; their righteousness endures forever."

- 4. Freely give of your gifts and services.
- **2 Corinthians 9:12** This **service** that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God.

RECAP

- What The 2024 Vision and Action Plan.
- **Why** To fulfil our Vision and Mission.
- **How** It starts with each one of us.
 - Each of us must make the decision.
 - Take that step of faith.
 - Freely give our time, talents, and treasures.

