

Stronger Together

Lesson for sermon of Sunday, September 14th, 2025

Welcome (5-10 minutes)

Icebreaker Question: Have you ever tried to accomplish something big on your own (like an exercise routine, a home project, or learning a skill) but found it easier when you had someone walking with you? Share your experience.

Opening Thought: Just like physical training is more effective with a partner, our spiritual growth is stronger when we walk with others in community. God designed the church not as individuals walking alone but as a body moving together.

Word (25-30 minutes)

Read: Acts 2:41-47

- What part of this passage stands out most to you, and why?
- How do you define true fellowship, beyond Sunday services?

1. Walking Together in Unity

The early church was deeply united. They met together, prayed together, ate together, shared generously, and grew together. Their unity and vibrant sense of community became a powerful testimony that God used to draw many to hear the gospel and be added to the church.

Unity means harmony, not uniformity. Like an orchestra, different parts come together for one beautiful sound.

Discussion Questions:

- What do you think the difference is between unity and uniformity?
- Can you share an example of a time when different people worked together in harmony, and it made something beautiful?

2. Walking Together in Care

The early church cared for one another in real, practical ways. Fellowship wasn't just spiritual; it touched daily life.

Discussion Questions:

- Why do you think practical care is such a powerful expression of faith?
- What are some ways we can show this kind of care in our group today?

3. Walking Together in Support

Have someone read: Galatians 6:2 and Romans 15:1

Support means carrying one another's burdens, like a spotter stepping in when the weight is too heavy.

Discussion Questions:

- What "burdens" do people often carry silently?
- How can we recognize when someone needs support if they don't say it out loud?

4. Walking Together in Encouragement

Hebrews 3:13 (NIV) But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today"

Encouragement is like oxygen for our spiritual fire. Without it, faith can grow weak.

Discussion Questions:

- Who has encouraged you in a meaningful way recently, and how did it impact you?
- How can we become more intentional encouragers in this group?

5. Walking Together in Service

Read: 1 Peter 4:10

God has given every believer a gift, and the body thrives when each one uses it.

Discussion Questions:

- What gifts or abilities has God given you that you enjoy using for others?
- What happens to the church when some members don't use their gifts?

Wrap-Up (10 minutes)

The Christian life is not a solo workout. It's a shared journey where unity, care, support, encouragement, and service make us stronger together.

Challenge for the Week

- **Encourage someone daily:** Send a text, make a call, or pray with someone in your group.
- **Serve someone intentionally:** Use your gift this week to meet a need in your group, church, or neighborhood.

Prayer: Close with a circle prayer. Invite members to pray short prayers for unity, care, support, encouragement, and service.