

ONE message. people. mission.



The Devoted Church

Acts 2:42-47

Overview

- **The Church is Devoted to Loving God**
 - Church is Devoted to Apostles Teaching: Bible
 - Church is Devoted to Fellowship
 - Christian Fellowship:
 - Nature is made up of the Unworthy
 - In our sin/rebellion we were unworthy to gain Christ
 - Nothing in us deserving love of Christ: Shown Grace/Mercy
 - The Unworthy received Love out of Service: So we do same
 - Christian Fellowship (Church) is Servant oriented in nature
 - Church associates itself w/ one another in the Gospel
 - If it is untrue the church crumbles
 - So its relationships must be centered on the teaching of Gospel
 - There is no room in church for arrogance or homogeneity
 - Implications:
 - We talk about the Gospel outside of gatherings with one another
 - We must love the unworthy
 - We must be united around the Gospel: Thinking others as better than self
- **The Church is Devoted to Loving Neighbor**
 - The church was united in the teaching of the Gospel
 - We too must seek unity in one another around the Gospel
 - If we do not we attempt to find unity in something other than Gospel
 - This brings death because the Gospel brings life
 - When we ban together in unity out of a responsive, servant love towards unworthy servants we then also look to alleviate the needs of those around us
 - Abandoning self in hopes of seeing others come into THE Fellowship of the church, the Body of Christ
 - As we look to alleviate need we proclaim the Gospel and call people to it as we go
 - When we do this: God adds to the number of those being saved
 - Advances the mission of a people gathering all over the world to the praise of God's glory

Questions

Discussion Starter: What do you think the culture-at-large's experience of the church is? What about you personally?

Transition: Here in Acts 2 we see the early church. Let's see how this compares with what we see in our church and other local churches.

1. Read 2:42-43. What do you think is meant by “devote” in vs. 42?
2. Why do you think it so important to devote ourselves to the apostles teaching (bible)? What happens when we begin to devote ourselves to something other than the objective truths of Scripture?
3. How does teaching the Bible birth true Christian Fellowship?
4. How was Fellowship defined in the sermon?
5. How can we foster that kind of “fellowship”?
6. Discuss how Restoration Church can be unified in the Gospel. What are the dangers in being unified around something other than the gospel?
7. Read 2:44-46. How can we emulate the early church in selling tracts of land so that no one has need? What implication does that have on the use of our money and time?
8. What is the result of the early church sharing everything together and worshipping together? Why do you think this was the case?
9. Read 2:46-27. “Christian proclamation makes the gospel audible; Christians living together in local churches make the gospel visible.” Why is this the case? What does this say about the importance of being meaningfully involved in a local church?
10. How can we be more evangelistic in our efforts to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ?

Accountability Question: Are you truly pursuing fellowship with others at Restoration Church?