



Acts 2:42-47

The First Church

1. **What we can't do!** Make our church exactly like their church.
 - a. We do not _____ in First Century Israel.
 - b. We are not _____, with no organization or structure or leadership model.
 - c. Very few people in our church become destitute _____ they became a Christian.

2. **What we must do!**
 - a. Realize that this group _____ instructed by the apostles (God ordained leaders).
 - b. Take their example into consideration as _____ form our church practices.
 - c. Make _____ as big a part of our lives as they did theirs.

3. **What things can we learn from them?**
 - a. They devoted themselves to the Apostles Teaching. (Vs 42)
 - i. They taught from the Old Testament
 - ii. They taught to others what Jesus has taught them
 - iii. They taught others what the Holy Spirit was teaching them

For us, we must devote ourselves to the teaching of God's _____.

 - b. They devoted themselves to living life _____ in community. (Vs. 42)
 - i. They had fellowship (talking, laughing, crying, playing, etc.)
 - ii. Breaking of Bread (eating meals together)
 - iii. Prayer (going with and for one another to God with various needs)

For us, we must devote ourselves finding ways to spend _____ and _____ together, building *friendships* into *relationships*.

- c. They created a little _____ in our community! (Vs 43)
- i. We don't see many signs and wonders – maybe not a single one.
 - ii. But we do see God working, and we need to put this on display
 - iii. Psalm 29:2 “Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name”
 - iv. Matthew 5:16 “In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”
 - v. Colossians 3:17 “And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

For us, we must _____ both in both word and in deed, in attitude and motive, humility and pride, and in action as well as inaction.

- d. They watched out for one another and helped meet each other's needs. (Vs 44-45)
- i. This is not communism or socialism, it is _____.
 - ii. They operated as if their band of believers was family.

For us, we must act like our band of believers is an actual _____.

- e. They were _____ in these behaviors. (Vs 46-47)
- i. They did this “every day”, not just on Sunday.
 - ii. They “continued” with these practices as they grew

For us, we must consistently and continuously be _____ God has called us to be, until the Lord returns and the church is taken away.

- f. They were proactive in adding to their number “daily those who are being saved.”
- i. We don't know what they did to evangelize.
 - ii. But the gospel was being _____ and _____.

For us, we must a bunch of “Nobody's, trying to tell everybody, all about somebody, who changed our lives.”