



"Together Forever" - Sermon Notes – Acts 2:42-47

Introduction - *What is your view of the Church?*

1. Adam and Eve – Genesis 1:26-28 – “Be fruitful and multiply”
2. Tower of Babel – Genesis 11 – God scatters humanity due to their arrogance
3. Roman Empire – Exilic Jews scattered throughout knowing the language of their region of the empire. – Acts 2:5ff
4. 120 of these devout Jews experience the power of the Spirit that Jesus’ promised in Acts 1:8
5. Peter preaches the first post-ascension sermon and 3000 souls are converted. Acts 2:14-41

Spirit-Filled Devotion – vs. 42

1. “They devoted themselves” = “They, together, persevered”
2. Ephesians 1:1-4 – United in Christ corporately – you (plural), us, we
3. There is no “individualism” in the Church of Christ.

Spirit-Filled Worship – vs. 42 – Apostle’s teaching, prayer, breaking of bread

1. Corporately in the Temple and in each other’s homes – vs. 46
 - Apostles Teaching – The Word of God
 - Jesus gave the disciples the command and authority to teach Jesus’ commands. – Mt. 28:20
 - Jesus told them that the Holy Spirit would give them remembrance of all he taught. – John 14:26
 - In His Word is the truth of who God is, who we are in Christ, where salvation is explained, God’s design for life, the state of those who do not know Him, His promises.
 - Prayer – Communion with and dependence upon God – Ephesians 3:20, 1 Peter 5:7
 - Breaking of Bread – The Lord’s Supper – 1 Corinthians 11:17ff

Spirit-filled Mission

1. Fellowship - vs. 42 - Koinonia
 - Everything in Common vs. 44
 - Acts 4:32 - ***“Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common.”***
 - You are not your own. - 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 says, ***“Or do you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God. You are not your own, for you were bought with a price.”***
 - We are One in Christ – John 17:21 - ***“I do not ask for these only (meaning the disciples), but also for those who will believe in me through their word (that’s all believers other than the disciples, including you and me) that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me.”***
 - Vs. 44, 45 - ***“And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings, and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.”***
 - The Impact – Meet the needs of those in and out of the fellowship – vs. 45 – ***“distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need”***
 - The Lord saves – vs. 47 ***“And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.”***

The Spirit-filled Motivation – Jesus' Devotion to Us

1. Acts 2:22ff - ***“Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—²³ this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. ²⁴ God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.... ³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”***
2. 2:37 – ***“cut to the heart”***
3. 2:43 – ***“And awe came upon every soul”***
4. 4:33 – ***“and great grace was upon them all”***
5. Jesus was devoted to communication with His Father and the Spirit in eternity past on your behalf. Hebrews 13:21 ***“Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant...”***
6. Jesus was devoted to revealing God and His salvation as the Word in the flesh and fulfilling every bit of the law (His Word) righteously – John 1:14, Mt. 5:17ff
 - ***“I am the Way, the Truth, the Life...”*** – John 14:6
7. Jesus was devoted to experiencing our hell through His body being broken and blood being spilled out. 1 Corinthians 11:17ff.
 - Luke 9:53 – ***“But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.”***
 - Luke 13:22 – ***“He went on his way through towns and villages, teaching and journeying toward Jerusalem.”***
8. Jesus was devoted to showering us with all of His Spiritual blessings in the heavenly places so that we would be co-heirs with Christ by His grace. – Eph. 1:3, Romans 8:12ff.