

## THE MODEL CHURCH

### Acts 2:41-47

The only model local church is the First Church of Jerusalem, founded on Pentecost, with \_\_\_\_\_ members  
Many of the 3000 saved on Pentecost were from out of \_\_\_\_\_: they had no homes and no livelihood

#### I. THE \_\_\_\_\_ PRACTICES OF THIS MODEL CHURCH Acts 2:42

The verb in v.42 is unusual: it means they continued to \_\_\_\_\_ the 4 practices listed in this verse:

##### A. The Apostles' Doctrine

- 1) Jesus promised the \_\_\_\_\_ to the apostles to enable them to transmit the truth about Him
- 2) Faithful pastors serve the same function today, teaching the apostolic doctrine found in the \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) The 12 apostles authenticated their message by wonders & \_\_\_\_\_ —miracles, healings, tongues
- 4) It is noteworthy that this church focused not on emotional \_\_\_\_\_ but the apostles' doctrine

##### B. The Fellowship (the word "fellowship" comes from a root word that means \_\_\_\_\_ )

- 1) Christians share in common on a *vertical* plane: the spiritual realities of God Himself & \_\_\_\_\_  
Christians share an \_\_\_\_\_ that transcends anything else in life: it is who we are at our core
- 2) Christians share in common on a *horizontal* plane—with other believers, members of one \_\_\_\_\_
  - a) This horizontal fellowship is reflected in the "one anothers" of the NT-- \_\_\_\_\_ such commands
  - b) Vv.44-45 indicate they shared their \_\_\_\_\_ and their possessions in order to meet those needs
    - i) This church was in \_\_\_\_\_ mode: many had no homes or jobs: the church had to respond
    - ii) This was not Christian communism or socialism; nor did they form some kind of \_\_\_\_\_
  - c) Fellowship included many new Christians living with members who had homes in \_\_\_\_\_

##### C. The Breaking of the Bread

The articles in 2 places means this church practiced the Lord's \_\_\_\_\_ in remembrance of Jesus

##### D. The Prayers

- 1) "The prayers" most likely means that this church practiced times of united prayer—prayer \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) This is the one element of the model that many modern \_\_\_\_\_ have little interest in continuing

#### II. THE \_\_\_\_\_ AFFAIRS OF THIS MODEL CHURCH

##### A. "Then \_\_\_\_\_ came upon every soul" Acts 2:43

Even people outside the church stood in awe of what \_\_\_\_\_ was doing in the church

##### B. "Continuing daily with one accord in the \_\_\_\_\_ Acts 2:46

Where did this mega-church meet? The \_\_\_\_\_ taught in the temple court after regular services

##### C. "Having \_\_\_\_\_ with all the people" Acts 2:47

This church was enjoying a "honeymoon," still flying under the radar, but soon \_\_\_\_\_ began

##### D. "The Lord \_\_\_\_\_ to their number daily those who were being saved" Acts 2:47

It seems that \_\_\_\_\_ was not something they DID; rather it was a natural part of their lives

- 1) Luke attributes the \_\_\_\_\_ of this church to the Lord: Jesus built the church as He promised
- 2) They did not cut themselves off from their \_\_\_\_\_ : their neighbors could not help but notice
- 3) Luke doesn't tie the growth of the church to what we would call evangelism, but rather to \_\_\_\_\_