

“BEING A RESTORED HUMAN”



“ASSEMBLING TOGETHER”

ACTS 2:41-47; HEBREWS 10:19-25

I. THE PRACTICE OF ASSEMBLING TOGETHER

A. The heritage of Israel

1. Holy assemblies - meetings for the purpose of reading the Word of God. No work was allowed; rest of the Lord i.e. the sabbath at home and the synagogue meeting
2. Solemn assemblies - intense meetings of singular purpose

B. The heritage of the church recorded in the New Testament

1. The first church meeting Acts 2:41-47

a. Radically saved people

Baptized into the company of Messiah

Filled with the Spirit

Moved with great relief at being forgiven

Energized by the promise of the kingdom

b. Gathered around Spirit-filled teachers in

large group meetings

Staying with them

Applying what they learned

c. Small group meetings with unleavened, quick bread

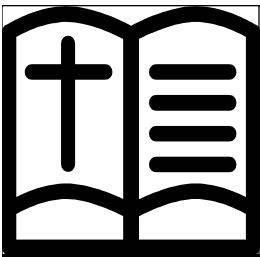
Reminiscent of the Exodus

Early communion celebrations

d. Praying was a major activity

With one passion (accord)

Based in the apostles' teaching of the Word



- e. *Humbled fear of God led to many miraculous things being done (expectation of it grew; they expected something supernatural to happen)*
- f. *Fantastic acts of love and sharing; freedom and release brought willingness to give*
- g. *Large group meetings of people of the same passion or zeal for the Christ and His kingdom were conducted daily in the temple*
- h. *Small group meetings were daily in homes around the breaking of bread and eating with welcome openness and simplicity and singleness of heart*
- i. *Spirit-filled praise brought the favor of God and the people in and around the temple; it was contagious—even the priests were brought to Christ, Pharisees too!*
- h. *The reading of the Scriptures (Psalms, Proverbs, Prophets, Letters) was Prominent; often being sung*
- i. *Healing by the laying on of hands of the elders was practiced James 5:14-15 as well as by confession of sins to one another followed by prayer for one another*
- j. *The exercise of spiritual gifts was a dominant and appreciated practice*

What if God has taken away our meeting so we could get our act together about why we meet and how to do it?