

A Shared Life

Acts 2:42-47

PART FOUR

Introduction

The only way any church can be sure that it will survive and please God is to build it His way.

“Unless the Lord builds the house those who build it labor in vain” Psalm 127:1.

1 Chronicles 28:10.

1 Chronicles 28:20.

1 Chronicles 29:19.

All of the structures that men build soon crumble and fall.

You are now the temple of the living God!

1 Corinthians 3:16-17.

Ephesians 2:19-22.

We the people of God are being used by God to build His Church.

1 Corinthians 3:9-11.

When a church abandons God’s way for their own, He writes “Ichabod” over the door and departs.

Matthew 23:37-39.

“desolate” ‘abandoned to ruin.’

12 Crucial Components of a True NT Church

- 1) Spirit-filled conversion among members based upon the proclamation of biblical truth (v37-38).
- 2) Faithful proclamation and teaching the whole content of Scripture (v42a).
- 3) Perseverance in hearing, understanding, accepting, and living by the Word of God (v42a).
- 4) Living and participating in a shared life in Christian community (v42b).
- 5) Practicing the two ordinances given to the Church: *Baptism & Communion* (vv38, 42c).
- 6) Commitment to, and consistency in corporate and individual prayer (v42c).

7) Awestruck wonder at what God is doing among the members (v43).

“And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles” (v43).

Profound and reverent, not terrifying.

Jeremiah 33:6-9.

Luke 7:16.

An awareness that something supernatural is going on.

8) Unity in community (v44).

“And all who believed were together and had all things in common” (v44)

We are one body in Christ

The unifying work of Christ at Pentecost is a reversal of the scattering at Babel (Genesis 11:1-9).

1 Corinthians 12:12-14.

“Let love be genuine.... Love one another with brotherly affection” Romans 12:9-10.

John 13:34-35.

This is our strength.

It is our “love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony” (Colossians 3:14).

Romans 12:4-6.

Ephesians 4:2-6.