

A Shared Life

Acts 2:42-47

PART TWO

Introduction

The Divine Wisdom of *Simplicity*.

The Divine Intention for *Purity*.

Acts 2:42-47: The newborn Church in its primitive state of *simplicity*, *purity*, and *fidelity* to Christ.

12 Crucial Components of a True NT Church

1) True Spirit-induced, 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).

"And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching" (v42a).

The church is built on biblical content: John 21:15-17 "feed my lambs," "feed my sheep."

Ephesians 2:19-22

Ephesians 4:11-12

Elders "must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it" (Titus 1:9).

1 Timothy 4:6

"Command and teach these things" (1 Timothy 4:11).

"Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching" (1 Timothy 4:13).

"Keep a close watch on yourself and on the teaching. Persist in this, for by so doing you will save both yourself and your hearers" (1 Timothy 4:16).

3) Perseverance in hearing, understanding, accepting, and living by the Word of God (v42a).

"devoted" "they continued steadfastly"

Matthew 28:19-20

"So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, 'If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples'" (John 8:31).

“abide” Gk *meno*; ‘to remain in something, persist, live’; ‘to dwell’ ‘to persevere in.’

James 1:25

“Let what you heard from the beginning abide in you. If what you heard from the beginning abides in you, then you too will abide in the Son and in the Father” (1 John 2:24).

- ✓ Without a steady diet of God’s Word, Christians lack spiritual maturity and depth of character, and are more easily given over to their emotions and sentimentalities.
- ✓ Without regular immersion in the Scriptures, they suffer a dearth of wisdom making them prone to foolish choices and decisions.
- ✓ Without an ongoing commitment to study the Word of God, they are naïve, lacking discernment, and therefore defenseless against deception and false teaching.

Hebrews 5:11-14