

Acts 2:42-47

## I. Seven Qualities

1. **Maturing in the Word** v42a
2. **Meaningful Fellowship** v42b, 46
3. **Making Supplication** v42c
4. **Miracles Performed** v43
5. **Ministry to the Body** v44-45
6. **Magnifying God** v47
7. **Missions, Disciple Making, and Evangelism** v47
  - a. They were left with Acts 1:8
  - b. God had to give them Acts 8:1
  - c. But for the most part they were a tremendous example.

## II. One Focus

Here is our bullseye: Missions Disciple making, and evangelism.

1. Matthew 28:18-20
2. Acts 1:8

If we hit this, aim at this, we will hit everything else.

1. Tie it together... Draw the Design to tie it all together.
2. The early church aimed at Acts 1:8 and Acts 2:42-47 happened!

If we aim at becoming a launching pad together, the other 6 elements will take care of themselves.

## III. Three Realities

1. **We cannot do everything well.**
  - a. Busyness does not equal godliness
  - b. Productions do not equal productivity...it's easier than sharing the gospel though
  - c. Numbers do not necessarily equal fruit.
2. **We do not have to do everything well.**
  - a. The community has their opinion and ideas, life way has their opinions and ideas, and the church down the road has their opinions and ideas, but we cannot allow the opinions of others, even professionals, to distract us from God's clear commands.
  - b. We do not have to be the religious super Walmart or strip mall attempting to meet every need of every person in our community.
  - c. We don't have to constantly come up with bigger and better ideas or programs
  - d. We simply have to focus on what God is focused on: advancing the kingdom through missions, disciple making, and evangelism.

### 3. We must do 1 thing well.

- a. We must do the one thing Jesus left us here to do: missions, disciple making, and evangelism
- d. He left us no question, because He included it in all 4 gospels and Acts!
  - 1. Matthew 28:18-20, go and make disciples of all nations
  - 2. Mark 16:15, go and preach the gospel to all creation
  - 3. Luke 24:47, repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.
  - 4. John 20:21, As the Father has sent me, so I send you.
  - 5. Acts 1:8
- c. Do you see that based on the orders of our commanding officer, we must do 1 thing well?
  - 1. Missions...globally
    - a. Adopting an UUPG and getting a broader footprint on the globe
    - b. Praying, giving, going, sending
  - 2. Disciple Making and Evangelism...locally
    - a. Discipleship groups
    - b. Through these groups we will strive to
      - 1. Sow broadly and harvest deliberately through biblical evangelism efforts
      - 2. Disciple intensively as we group strategically into gender specific groups of 3-5 individuals who have the goal of replicating or multiplying continually
  - 3. This is the pattern that we see in Scripture...and this what we must get back to if we are going to engage the culture.

If we are going to add energy to something, it will cost energy in other areas and that is ok.

- 1. Ephesians 5:15-17 *Therefore be careful how you walk, not as unwise men but as wise, 16 making the most of your time, because the days are evil. 17 So then do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.*
- 2. We must make margin to put the emphasis and the energy into the things that Jesus prioritizes.
- 3. Matthew 6:33 *But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What did you learn about God in this sermon and in the biblical texts used? About Christ? About the Holy Spirit?
2. What did you learn about yourself in this sermon and in the texts used?
3. Were there any clear promises or commands in the biblical texts used?
4. What is the hardest truth that stands out to you from this message or the verses referenced?
5. What is the most impactful point or statement from the sermon?
6. How can you respond to this message?