

Be
the
Church

41 So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand people were added. 42 They were devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

43 Reverential awe came over everyone, and many wonders and miraculous signs came about by the apostles. 44 All who believed were together and held everything in common,

ACTS 2:41-44

45 and they began selling their property and possessions and distributing the proceeds to everyone, as anyone had need. 46 Every day they continued to gather together by common consent in the temple courts, breaking bread from house to house, sharing their food with glad and humble hearts, 47 praising God and having the good will of all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number every day those who were being saved.

ACTS 2:41-47

The church in Acts operated here like newlyweds in some ways.

- They met daily in the temple
- Sold everything to meet each other's needs
- Did everything together

Maturity to Come

- They setup weekly meetings- (Acts 20:7, 1 Cor. 16:1-2)
- Later on, we will see elders and deacons and a diversity of spiritually gifted people functioning as a body.
- Eventually people will set money aside on the first day of the week, as they are able (1 Corinthians 16:1-4; see 2 Corinthians 8-9).
- There was no such thing yet as church discipline (it first appears in Acts 5).

- They did not know yet that the church would include Gentiles who are now one in Christ (Ephesians 2 and 3).
- Later on the Jerusalem council decides that circumcision is no longer required. (Acts 15)
- In Acts 2:47, we are told that the church had the good will of all the people. The church was respected and esteemed. It won't be long before the church will be persecuted (Acts 7ff.).

Their first love: Loving God and Loving each other

- They spent time together
- Apostle's teaching
- Fellowship
- The Breaking of Bread
- Prayer

Conclusion

- Spend time together
 - Invite another family out to lunch or over to dinner this week
- Let us not forget our 1st loves as a church
 - God
 - Each other