



The Chapel
January 19, 2025
Dave Gustavsen

Week 3: Join the Family
Scripture: Acts 2:42-47

1. OPEN IN PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Have a group member pray, invite the Holy Spirit to lead, and fill your time together.

2. GETTING STARTED: (10 MINUTES)

- Question: Share a positive time you experienced community (family, church, sports team, etc... What are some upsides of having community? Some risks?

3. READ ACTS 2:42-47 TOGETHER (5 MINUTES)

- Ask one or two group members to read the passage aloud.

4. DISCUSS (30 MINUTES)

Understanding the Passage:

- Among all the things Luke tells us about the early church, what stands out most about their life and priorities? Why?
- Acts 2:42-47 describes a community that was devoted to discipleship, evangelism, fellowship, worship, and ministry. Which of these qualities do you feel is strongest in your life and/or our church community, and which one could use growth?
- The early church was devoted. What obstacles get in the way of our devotion? What risk does our church face if any one of the five areas in is neglected?
- Verse 47 says, "The Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." How do you think the early church's love and unity contributed to this growth, and what can we learn from their example?

Applying the Message:

- How can our church and/or small group better reflect the Acts 2:42-47 church? How does this passage challenge you to grow in your attitudes or commitment to living out your faith in community?
- Review your answers in #2 (strengths/weaknesses). Then share:
 - a. In what ways are you using your strengths?
 - b. How are you seeking to grow in your weakest area?
 - c. How can you help each other grow together in the year ahead?

5. LIVE IT OUT: "BE MY WITNESS THIS WEEK" (10 MINUTES)

- **Connect:** Spend time with someone in the group outside of your normal meeting (examples: share a meal, meet up for coffee)
- **Invite:** Extend an invitation to someone outside your group to experience Christian community, whether by joining a small group, attending a service, or having a personal connection.
- **Group Challenge:** Decide as a group on one small, tangible way you can bless someone or serve others together this week.

6. CLOSING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

- Thank God for the gift of community and ask Him for help living as a loving, Spirit-filled family that reflects His love to others.