

**42** And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. **43** And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. **44** And all who believed were together and had all things in common. **45** And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. **46** And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, **47** praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved. Acts 2:42-47 ESV

## Guiding Thoughts:

1. This passage doesn't say everything that could be said about the Church.
2. We are not looking for a prescription but for principles.

*"they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching"* for them, live, for us in the Scriptures

*Am I in a regular rhythm of reading, studying and reflecting on the Bible? If not, why not?*

*"and the fellowship"* expansive word, signifying a partnership in/with. Life together!  
*"to the breaking of bread"* fellowship meals and/or taking the Lord's Supper.

*Am I in the rhythm of celebrating meals with other believers? (More than just getting together.)*

*"and the prayers"* times of prayer, they were a people of prayer.

*We want to grow in this area as a church. Stay tuned. God is at work!*

*Am I in the rhythm of praying for my pastors, our mission, those in my life who don't know Christ?*

*"awe came upon every soul"* they were a people who we consistently in awe of God.

*Do I have a sense of awe for who God is and what He is doing?*

*"and had all things in common, selling possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all as any had need"* they were concerned with meeting the needs of others and were willing to meet them.

*Am I in the seeing and meeting the needs of others around me both inside and outside the church?*

*"temple together...in their homes"* Large group, small group – ish.

*Are Sunday worship and community groups an integral part of our lives?*

*"praising God"* They were a people of praise.  
*"having favor with all the people"* They had influence and favor in their community.

*Do I have favor and influence among the people in my community?*

*"those who were being saved"* People were turning from their sins and trusting in Christ and being added to the Church.

*Why am I not seeing more of this? What is God calling me to do?*

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*Works Consulted: Expositor's Bible Commentary, A.T. Robertson's Word Pictures*