

# The Spirit Filled Church

## (Acts 2:41-47)

**Acts 2:41-47 HCSB** “So those who accepted his message were baptized, and that day about 3,000 people were added to them. (42) And they devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching, to fellowship, to the breaking of bread, and to prayers. (43) Then fear came over everyone, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles. (44) Now all the believers were together and had everything in common. (45) So they sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as anyone had a need. (46) And every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house. They ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart, (47) praising God and having favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved.”

After the birth of the church through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, we are given a description of what the early church looked like, what their priorities were and how they functioned and grew.

### The Priorities (What they were devoted to)

#### Loving God

The Word (Apostle’s teaching)

- Not everyone had a copy of scripture.
- They came together to learn together.
- This they learned by Jesus example.
  - ✦ **Luke 10:38-39 HCSB** “While they were traveling, He entered a village, and a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her home. (39) She had a sister named Mary, who also sat at the Lord’s feet and was listening to what He said.”
- This was how He taught them.

Prayer

- They had a desire for communion with God.
- They came together to pray together.
- **QUOTE:** “Can any deny that in the modern church setup the main cause of anxiety is money? Yet that which tries the modern churches the most troubled the New Testament Church the least. Our accent is on paying, theirs was on praying. When we have paid, the place is taken; when they had prayed, the place was shaken!” – Leonard Ravenhill
- We are the temple of Holy Spirit. Jesus reminded us that God’s house will be a house of prayer.

#### Loving Each Other

Fellowship

- They enjoyed each other’s company.
- Shared their lives with each other.

- *“(44) Now all the believers were together and had everything in common. (45) So they sold their possessions and property and distributed the proceeds to all, as anyone had a need.”*
- They viewed everything they had as coming from and belonging to God.
- They were owners of nothing, but stewards of everything.

#### Breaking of Bread

- Whether it is speaking of The Lord’s Supper or just a common meal is unclear.
- Either way, the early church shared their sacred times as well as their common times with each other.
- They were family,

## The Product

### Fear

✚ Verse 43 – *“Then fear came over everyone, and many wonders and signs were being performed through the apostles.”*

✚ It was evident to all that the Living God was among them.

### Signs and wonders

✚ These are not the goal or focus, they are the by-product.

✚ Hungry people go where the food is.

✚ Desperate people go where the power is.

## The Personality

### Community

✚ *(46) And every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple complex, and broke bread from house to house...”*

### Uncomplicated

✚ *“... They ate their food with gladness and simplicity of heart,”*

### Thankful

✚ *“(47) praising God...”*

### Admired and Respected

✚ *“...and having favor with all the people.”*

### Growing

✚ *“...And every day the Lord added to them those who were being saved.”*