

All for One; One for All

Acts 2:42-47; The Acts of the Apostles, pp. 70, 71

Have you seen a baptism in your church? Were people sad or happy? The early Christians were thrilled because so many people were joining the church.

The disciples were bubbling over with happiness and the wonder of it all. Think of it—3,000 new believers had joined the church in one day!

Many of these new believers were strangers to Jerusalem. They had traveled a long way from

far-off places to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost.

Most planned to return home as soon as the feast was over. But many now changed their minds. They no longer wanted to hurry home. They wanted to stay in Jerusalem awhile.

There they could learn more about Jesus from the disciples. You might even say they were hungry to learn about Jesus.

The Jerusalem believers welcomed the new believers into their homes. They ate together. They prayed together. They praised the Lord together.

Some of the believers were wealthy, some were poor. Others had nothing because they had been disowned by their families when they became Christians. Some of the believers sold their property or possessions so they could help others.

Everyone shared what they had. The things of this world just weren't important

anymore. They believed that Jesus had risen from the grave. They believed that He would be coming back soon. And they believed He would take them home to heaven. They were full of hope and love.

They chose to follow God and let His Holy Spirit fill their lives. They

wanted to share this hope and love with everybody. And the Holy Spirit worked with the believers to perform many miracles.



The Message

God gives us gifts so we
can help others.

Memory Verse

“Serve whole-
heartedly, as if
you were serving
the Lord, not people”
(Ephesians 6:7).

There were no newspapers in Jerusalem in those days, no radio, no television, no Internet, no cell phones, or e-mail. But that didn't keep the news about the early church from spreading. Everyone talked about the good news of the gospel.

“Have you heard about what happened this morning in front of the temple?” someone may have asked.

Another person may have said, “Remember my next-door neighbor? The one who was crippled from the time she was born? Well, let me tell you what happened to her yesterday!”

“Do you know what I saw?” someone else may have asked.

The early church members taught the Word of God. They shared gladly with one another.

They often ate together. And they shared in the special Communion meal. Every day was a time of prayer and praise. Every day new people heard the story of Jesus. And every day more people joined the church.

We, as God's church, should still be doing this today. Believers should teach the Bible and share God's love gladly with one another. We should eat together in fellowship and share Communion services. Together, we should praise the Lord, study His Word, and pray. And many more will follow God because of our loving witness.



People from all over the world traveled to Jerusalem to celebrate the Feast of Pentecost.



S A B B A T H

DO The early Christians enjoyed fellowship, spending time together. If possible, meet with another family to do something together. Share your lesson with them.

DO The early Christians helped one another. Try to help each one in your family today. Thank God for the privilege of helping others.

M O N D A Y

READ Read and discuss 1 John 3:17, 18 during worship today. What does God ask us to do? How can you use your hands to help people today? Share your experiences during worship tonight. Ask God to be with the people you helped today.

ASK Ask your family to plan a picnic or other meal for next Sabbath. Ask if you can invite people to join you.

ASK Interview an adult church member. Ask how they help in your church. What gifts are they using?

DO Remember to study your memory verse every day.

S U N D A Y

READ With your family, read and discuss Acts 2:42-47. List things the early Christians did. Which activity appeals most to you? Which appeals to your family? Do something together that appeals to your family. Ask God to help you.

DRAW Draw a large heart. Write the words of the memory verse on it, then cut it up. Put the heart back together and repeat the memory verse. Use this to teach the verse to your family.

T U E S D A Y

READ Read and discuss Acts 2:42, 43 with your family. List the things the early Christians did. Which can you do?

DRAW What made people look in awe at the disciples? Look up the word awe, then think of something you are in awe of. Draw a picture of it.

DO Teach someone something new about Jesus today.

PRAY Find out how many members are in your church. Pray for your church members and your pastor.

W E D N E S D A Y

SHARE During worship today, read and discuss Acts 2:44, 45. List the things the early Christians did. What do you have to share with someone else? What can you do to help your church's Community Services program? Ask your family how you can help others.

PRAY Thank God for all He has given your family. Ask Him to lead you to someone who needs your help.

THURSDAY

READ For worship today, read and discuss Acts 2:46, 47. Follow the early Christians' example and praise God during worship. Let everyone choose their favorite praise song. Make some praise shakers. (Put small stones or dried grain in an empty tin or plastic container.) Shake them while you sing. Thank God for the gift of music.

DO Do something nice today for someone in your family. Keep it a secret between you and God.



FRIDAY

READ Read and discuss Acts 2:42-47 during worship. Mime some of the different activities in the early church. How many can your family guess?

DO Before prayer, review your memory verse together. Ask God to send His Spirit to be with you on Sabbath—and every day.

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PUZZLE

Directions: Find a word in your lesson that most closely matches the visual clue. Write the word on the lines provided. The reason we have church is found in the vertical box.



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

1	_____
2	_____
3	_____
4	_____
5	_____