

Discipleship Series 5 through 9: A Church on a Mission

Acts 2:41-47



Acts 2:41-47 So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls. 42 And they

were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to the prayers. 43 And fear came upon every soul; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles. 44 And all those who had believed were together and had all things in common; 45 and they began selling their property and possessions and were dividing them up with all, as anyone might have need. 46 And daily devoting themselves with one accord in the temple and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart, 47 praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number daily those who were being saved.

In Acts chapter two we can see as a good example for how the very first church in Jerusalem fulfilled Jesus's Great Commission and Great Commandment. It is through this mission focused mindset that the church today can best go about the work of making disciples and loving God and loving others.

1) A Mission Focused Church CONVERTS the Lost Through

EVANGELISM. The story of the first church starts and ends with the fruit of evangelism. This was a church that shared the good news of Jesus

with all they encountered. The first step in expanding God's kingdom in the world is by witnessing to the lost.

2) A Mission Focused Church CULTIVATES Growth Through DISCIPLESHIP.

When the people in Jerusalem believed in Jesus they immediately entered into the local body of Christ and started to learn God's word. It is through teaching and applying the word of God that a church grows disciples of Jesus so that they can better obey everything He commanded.

3) A Mission Focused Church CONNECTS With Others Through FELLOWSHIP. In the first church, the love of others started with relationships. Everyone who believed entered into a biblical community of fellowship with one another in the church. This relationship building extended beyond the church and included the mission field "having favor with all the people."

4) A Mission Focused Church CONTRIBUTES to Others Through SERVICE. Loving others through fellowship became the foundation for serving those in need. Every person in the church was contributing to the ministry. The hallmark of a mission focused church is a lifestyle of service among its members.

5) A Mission Focused Church CELEBRATES God Through WORSHIP. The first church expressed their love of God through worship. Worship is the one thing that God does not possess unless we give it to Him. God seeks our worship and the church in Jerusalem eagerly offered their praise and thanksgiving to God daily. Worship in the church is truly a celebration of who God is and what God has done in our lives.