A Christ-Centered Community on Mission Together Acts 2:42-47

#1: Devotion to the Word (2:42a, 43)

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.

#2: Devotion to One Another (2:42b, 44)

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles 'teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another." (Jn 13:34–35)

"We are . . . individually members one of another" (Rom 12:5)

"Love one another with brotherly affection" (Rom 12:10)

"Outdo one another in showing honor" (Rom 12:10)

"Instruct one another" (Rom 15:14)

"Have the same care for one another" (1 Cor 12:25)

"Through love serve one another" (Gal 5:13)

"Bear one another's burdens" (Gal 6:2)

"With patience, endure one another in love" (Eph 4:2)

"Be kind to one another" (Eph 4:32)

"Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ" (Eph 5:21)

"In humility count others more significant than yourselves" (Phil 2:3)

"Do not lie to one another" (Col 3:9)

"Encourage one another" (1 Thess 4:18)

"Always seek to do good to one another" (1 Thess 5:15)

"Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works" (Heb 10:24)

"Do not speak evil against one another, brothers" (Jam 4:11)

"Do not grumble against one another" (Jam 5:9)

"Confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed." (Jam 5:16)

"Show hospitality to one another without grumbling" (1 Pet 4:9)

"Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another" (1 Pet 5:5)

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 (Jn 4:7)

"No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us." (1 Jn 4:12)

#3: Devotion to the Lord's Supper (2:42c, 46)

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles 'teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

#4: Devotion to Prayer (2:42d)

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles 'teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

#5: Extraordinary Sharing [Especially within the Church] (2:45)

⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.

#6: Regular Interaction with One Another (2:46)

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

Hebrews 3:12-13

¹² Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God. ¹³ But exhort one another every day, as long as it is called "today," that none of you may be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

#7: Gathering in Both Large and Small Groups (2:46)

⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts,

Hebrews 10:24-25

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

#8: A Spirit of Awe, Gladness, and Praise to God (2:43a, 46, 47a)

- ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul,
- 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 ...

D. Martyn Lloyd Jones

The greatest need of the hour is a revived and joyful church.... Unhappy Christians are a poor recommendation for the faith ... the exuberant joy of the early Christians was one of the most potent factors in the spread of Christianity.

#9: An Attractive Faith (2:47)

⁴⁷ praising God and <u>having favor with all the people</u>. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Aristides (AD 125)

Further, if one or other of them have bondmen and bondwomen or children, through love towards them they persuade them to become Christians, and when they have done so, they call them brethren without distinction. They do not worship strange gods, and they go their way in all modesty and cheerfulness.

Falsehood is not found among them; and they love one another, and from widows they do not turn away their esteem; and they deliver the orphan from him who treats him harshly. And he, who has, gives to him who has not, without boasting. And when they see a stranger, they take him in to their homes and rejoice over him as a very brother; for they do not call them brethren after the flesh, but brethren after the spirit and in God. And whenever one of their poor passes from the world, each one of them according to his ability gives heed to him and carefully sees to his burial. And if they hear that one of their number is imprisoned or afflicted on account of the name of their Messiah, all of them anxiously minister to his necessity, and if it is possible to redeem him they set him free. And if there is among them any that is poor and needy, and if they have no spare food, they fast two or three days in order to supply to the needy their lack of food.

#10: Everyday Evangelism (2:47)

⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number <u>day by day</u> those who were being saved.